0856-B-03 PREX 7.10: FBIS EAS-92-
179

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FOREIGN
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Daily Report

East Asia

JB 99-016977

FBIS-EAS-92-179
Tuesday
15 September 1992

AJL: 1,2; 19-27

COMPLETED

Daily Report
East Asia

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New Zealand Minister on UN, APEC, World Trade

BK1309032792 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 13 Sep 92 p 2

[Text] New Zealand Foreign Minister Don McKinnon sought Thailand's support for Wellington's bid for a UN Security Council seat when he met his Thai counterpart, Asa Sarasin, for talks on Friday.

Mr McKinnon, who is attending the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) group's ministerial meeting, said he has already received support of all but two Asian countries, including all of ASEAN.

During last week's Non-Aligned Movement meeting in Jakarta he discussed the issue at 42 bilateral meetings, he said.

But he said he is continuing to raise New Zealand's candidacy in subsequent meetings in order to secure continued support.

New Zealand is competing with Spain and Sweden for two rotating seats on the UN Security Council allocated to a group of countries described as "Western Europe and others," the "others" being Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

Mr McKinnon said New Zealand is bidding for a seat in order to show other countries that New Zealand is not prepared to sit on the sidelines and criticise others, but intends to participate in world affairs.

Wellington would encourage debate on whether the UN Security Council should become more involved in "peacemaking" instead of concentrating on "peacekeeping," Mr McKinnon said.

He said that increasingly, as in Yugoslavia and Cambodia, UN forces find themselves operating in situations where a peace settlement has not been fully accepted, which suggests the need to engage in "peacemaking".

In Somalia, where the distribution of food aid is being hampered by rival factions seeking to control who receives the aid, world public opinion is asking why the UN cannot intervene, Mr McKinnon said.

In all these cases, the question that has to be asked boils down to: "Should the United Nations involve itself in the affairs of a sovereign state?

"The UN has to debate these issues. Peacekeeping itself has become not a peaceful role."

In an interview, Mr McKinnon described APEC as the most important regional economic forum that New Zealand participates in.

With Trade Minister Philip Burdon also in Wellington's delegation this week, the Bangkok meeting is the first in which New Zealand is represented by both ministers, he said.

New Zealand's priority is to see that pressure remains on the world community to conclude the Uruguay Round of world trade talks, he said.

But observers have questioned whether the rest of the world has taken any notice when APEC issues its regular statements on the Uruguay Round.

"It's little bit like water dropping on a stone," Mr McKinnon said.

He argues that if APEC does not issue statements on the Uruguay Round, the rest of the world might conclude that the round is unimportant.

He expressed satisfaction that APEC has reached a consensus on the siting of its new secretariat. New Zealand would have been happy if any of the four candidates had won:

"Each of them is 11 hours from New Zealand."

The four candidates were Singapore, the chosen site, Bangkok, Seoul and Jakarta.

But he also let slip a wry comment on the difficulty APEC had in picking the site.

He said he suggested in yesterday's meeting that the secretariat could be mounted on a truck.

That way it could rotate through APEC's members, and at the same time ensure that APEC's bureaucracy remained small.

Mr McKinnon expressed disappointment that the United States had not sent Cabinet-level delegates.

But he said he understood the reasons—the needs of the US presidential campaign.

He said New Zealand wants to know more about the North American Free Trade Agreement recently concluded in principle by Canada, the United States and Mexico.

But he showed little of the concern about NAFTA hurting other countries that has been expressed by some Asian nations.

He was non-committal on how APEC should further liberalise its own economic links, arguing that what matters is for APEC members to trade more among themselves and with the rest of the world.

Singapore Advocates ASEAN Link With NAFTA

BK1409025292 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 12 Sep 92 p 19

[By Shaun Seow and Phua Kok Kim in Bangkok]

[Text] ASEAN would be more stable if it was linked to the rest of the Asia-Pacific, including the North American free trade area [NAFTA], Singapore's deputy prime minister, Lee Hsien Loong, said yesterday.

BG [Brigadier General] Lee, who is also trade and industry minister, told Singapore reporters here that he saw no contradiction between the proposed ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) and the 15-nation Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) group to which ASEAN belonged.

This was because AFTA, which was expected to be in place within 15 years, would be consistent with the rules of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

He cited another reason why there was no contradiction between AFTA and APEC.

"If APEC expands further its membership which in due course of time it is likely to, then it's very natural that subgroups of APEC members will find that they have more in common with one another and can progress faster if they work together as subgroups, and not as APEC 15 or 18 members as a whole."

How AFTA could be linked to NAFTA had not been discussed since both were in "embryonic stages," said BG Lee, who was in Bangkok to attend the fourth APEC ministerial meeting which ended yesterday. "But the thought is there and in the long term, we should guide developments along this direction," he added.

BG Lee made these comments in an interview with Singapore reporters who asked for his assessment of how AFTA would fit into APEC, which groups ASEAN, the United States, Canada, Japan, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand, China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong.

On the possible impact of the North American Free Trade Agreement, he said it had the potential in the long term to generate more trade and investment ties with Singapore and the rest of AFTA.

But as NAFTA countries comprising the U.S., Canada, and Mexico became more competitive in the medium term, they might draw investments away from Asian countries.

"I think it need not happen so long as we see this as a challenge to which we will respond ... we have taken note of it and we are taking steps on our side to promote economic cooperation to reduce trade barriers in Southeast Asia and ASEAN.

"And if both sides do it, both sides will end up ahead. Of course if we don't do it, then we will be left behind," he said.

Referring to the Uruguay round of multilateral trade talks, BG Lee said he believed that eventually "a settlement will be reached."

Yesterday, APEC ministers issued a statement reaffirming their commitment to push the Uruguay round negotiations forward "and overcome the last remaining hurdles."

The talks aimed at liberalising world trade has remained deadlocked over a dispute between the European Community and the U.S. over farm subsidies.

Japan

Yeltsin-Miyazawa Okinawa Meeting 'Impossible'

OW1409145892 Tokyo KYODO in English 1446 GMT 14 Sep 92

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 14 KYODO—A proposed meeting between Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa in Okinawa ahead of Yeltsin's November visit to South Korea is impossible, a Foreign Ministry source said Monday.

The source said the ministry does not know of such a proposal and Russian Deputy Prime Minister Mikhail Poltoranin made it without consulting the Japanese Government.

Poltoranin proposed earlier in the day in Moscow that Yeltsin and Miyazawa hold an interim meeting in Okinawa on November 11 on the eve of Yeltsin's visit to South Korea, Russia's INTERFAX News Agency reported.

Yeltsin postponed a scheduled visit to Japan and South Korea this month because of Tokyo's stance on a territorial dispute over four Russian-held islands off Hokkaido. Unlike South Korea, his Japan visit is yet to be rescheduled.

'Policy Makers': No Reason To Ease Credit Soon

OW1509020292 Tokyo KYODO in English 0139 GMT 15 Sep 92

[By Mitsuru Mabuchi]

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 15 KYODO—Japanese economic policy makers see no strong case for immediately easing credit after Germany's abrupt interest rate cut, and they expect the coming meeting of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial powers to be an unusually calm and comfortable gathering.

The officials unanimously welcomed Germany's rate reduction announced Monday, saying the move is timely and already has started producing favorable effects for stabilizing the currency market.

They, however, showed little concern about any strong pressure for Japan to cut its interest rates from its G-7 partners at their meeting this weekend. They said Japan is not on the G-7 hit list.

A senior official of the Ministry of Finance (MOF) said the Bundesbank's rate cut—the first in five years—was a "bold move" and is part of recent efforts by European countries to curb the mark's unabated rise and support other European currencies.

The official was skeptical that Japan will be the next to face G-7 pressure, especially from the United States, which is expected to cut its discount rate before long, to reduce interest rates further.

He said that Japan's aggressive monetary easing since July 1991, and the recently announced 10.7 trillion yen fiscal stimulus package has earned good marks from its G-7 partners, who are the United States, Britain, Canada, Italy, Germany and France.

"(G-7) countries say Japan has done a lot," he said.

"There are no strong voices among the G-7 countries calling for a Japanese rate cut."

With Japanese interest rates already at historically low levels and after the unexpectedly large economic rescue package, the official says, another cut in the official discount rate will not have any significant impact.

The Bank of Japan (BOJ) has cut the benchmark lending rate to 3.25 percent from 6.0 percent in five reductions in about one year.

The MOF official added there are also a couple of disadvantages to another cut in the rate.

A further easing of credit could put those who are living on pensions in a pinch, and accelerate the shift of money into postal savings, thereby slowing money supply growth further, and putting downward pressure on the yen at a time when Japan is running a record trade surplus.

Economists in the private sector agreed Japan's central bank is unlikely to relax its monetary policy any time soon.

"Germany's move won't have any important effect on Japan's monetary policy, although it has slightly improved the conditions for easing credit," said Toshio Ito, chief economist at Sumitomo Bank.

Ito said the BOJ will eventually cut the rate, but will wait for another good incentive like a downturn in the stock market.

Hiromitsu Soma, a senior economist at the Japan Research Institute, Ltd., said the government doesn't have a strong rationale for easing credit.

"The government still believes the economy will start picking up early next year and the stock market has regained stability," he said.

Unless the benchmark stock index retreats below 17,000 points again, or it becomes quite clear the economic recovery won't come as the government expects, Soma said, the BOJ will find it difficult to have a good reason for taking an even more accommodative policy.

The MOF official nevertheless suggested a rate cut is possible if it becomes obvious that the economy needs additional thrust.

"A rate cut would be effective when further measures are needed," he said.

Some economists, however, look for monetary easing in Japan in the next couple of months.

"The Bundesbank's rate cut has provided sizable leeway for the BOJ's credit easing," said Mineko Sasaki-Smith, who heads the research division at the Tokyo branch of Credit Suisse.

She said sluggish money supply growth and falling land prices, which are exacerbating the bad loan problems of banks as well as the continued weakness of the economy, will force the BOJ's hand.

"For the BOJ, helping battered banks is a high priority , although (BOJ Governor Yasushi) Mieno doesn't like admitting so," she said.

Sasaki-Smith said October is the most plausible time for the rate cut.

North Korea

Inspection of U.S. Nuclear Bases Demanded

SK1509033192 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0022 GMT 15 Sep 92

[NODONG SINMUN 15 September commentary: "The True Color of the Nuclear War Fanatic Has Been Revealed Again"]

[Text] As has been reported, the United States brought nuclear submarines to the Chinhae naval base in South Korea on some 40 occasions from 1979 to 1982. The United States is still using this base as a forward base for its Navy's strategic and tactical nuclear submarines. This shows that the United States is the ringleader in creating a nuclear threat on the Korean peninsula and that it, as well as the South Korean authorities, opposes the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula. This also gravely violates and betrays the joint declaration on the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

The United States started the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula. If the United States had not brought nuclear weapons into South Korea and had not threatened us with them, the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula would not even have been raised. For this reason, we have strongly demanded the withdrawal of the nuclear weapons ever since the United States brought them into South Korea. Nevertheless, the United States brought in more nuclear weapons and has continually conducted nuclear war exercises. This was aimed at holding South Korea as its nuclear forward base and striking our Republic.

This ambition of the United States remains unchanged. The United States has been continuously using the Chinhae naval base as its strategic and tactical nuclear submarine forward base; it conducted the Focus Lens joint military exercise some time ago; and is planning at the same time to provide South Korea with modern arms and equipment, including Patriot intercept missiles. This shows that the U.S. nuclear blackmail commotions are being stepped up even more.

The United States holds South Korea as its nuclear base not only to attack us, as its use of the Chinhae naval base as a strategic nuclear submarine base shows. If the United States were plotting a nuclear attack only on our Republic, it would not need to bring in strategic nuclear submarines. We cannot help but think that the United States has chosen Chinhae as its strategic nuclear submarine base in order to launch nuclear strikes on any part of Asia it chooses. Therefore, the U.S. maneuvers to turn South Korea into its nuclear base are a grave threat to peace and security not only in Korea but in Asia and the rest of the world as well.

The United States and the South Korean authorities rave about our nonexistent development as part of a heinous tactic to justify its nuclear war maneuvers and to make an excuse to launch a nuclear attack. The United States and the South Korean authorities still maintain a U.S. nuclear submarine base in South Korea and continue to use it. They reveal this in the way they desperately oppose overall inspection of nuclear weapons and nuclear bases in South Korea.

Last July, U.S. President Bush announced that tactical nuclear weapons had been withdrawn from South Korea. The person in authority in South Korea also made a nuclear-nonexistence declaration. The question is, are their statements true. If true, the United States and the South Korean authorities would have no reason or excuse for refusing the overall inspection of their nuclear weapons and nuclear bases.

As for us, we do not want to or need to manufacture nuclear weapons. Consequently, we faithfully accepted inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] and they recognized our Republic's peaceful intent in researching nuclear energy.

The complete elimination of U.S. nuclear bases and nuclear weapons in South Korea is all that remains in removing the nuclear threat from the Korean peninsula. To do this, overall inspection should be conducted.

The United States and the South Korean authorities are opposed to the inspection of nuclear weapons despite their claim that there are no nuclear weapons in South Korea. Does this not mean, contrary to their statement, that nuclear weapons exist?

The very person who was involved in the construction of secret nuclear storehouses in South Korea revealed their existence early last March. Furthermore, U.S. nuclear submarines carrying nuclear weapons are presently being exposed for calling at Chinhae port.

The United States and the South Korean authorities should prove that there are no nuclear weapons in South Korea in actual practice, not with words. The best way to do this is to accept without delay the overall inspection of nuclear bases and nuclear weapons in South Korea. Unless this inspection is conducted, the United States and the South Korean authorities cannot convince the world's citizens of the truth of their declaration on the withdrawal of nuclear weapons and their nuclear nonexistence declaration.

The North-South mutual nuclear inspections advocated by the United States and the South Korean authorities are nothing but a plot to evade overall inspection of U.S. nuclear bases and nuclear weapons in South Korea and to conceal such nuclear bases as the U.S. nuclear submarine base in Chinhae.

All these facts clearly show that the nuclear threat on the Korean peninsula comes from the South, not from the North.

Whether or not the joint denuclearization declaration can be implemented on the Korean peninsula in its entirety depends on the attitude of the United States and the South Korean authorities. The United States and the South Korean authorities should abolish the U.S. nuclear submarine base in Chinhae and immediately stop port calls by nuclear submarines. They should accept at an early date overall inspection of U.S. nuclear bases and nuclear weapons in South Korea.

Daily Calls U.S. Korean Policy Outdated

SK1509105492 Pyongyang NODONG SINMUN in Korean 2 Sep 92 p 6

[Article by Yi Sok-yun: "Outdated U.S. Policy on Korea—A Legacy of Cold War Era"]

[Text] The solution of the Korean problem has emerged as an urgent task of our era which should not be delayed any longer.

With the end of the cold war and the collapse of the structure of confrontation between East and West, it has become the trend of the times to advance toward peace and detente. However, remnants of the cold war still remain on the Korean peninsula. They are hindering our people's cause for national reunification and are erecting obstacles to improving the situation in Asia and the world. The Korean problem is to ensure durable peace by easing tension on the Korean peninsula and to achieve national reunification by ending the nation's division. The Korean problem occurred due to outside forces, and this problem has not been solved yet due to interference from outside forces. Unless the Korean problem is solved, our people cannot escape the constant danger of war nor can peace in Asia and the world be ensured. Solving the Korean question soon is a vital demand of our people and is an urgent task for ensuring peace in Asia and the world.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: Our Republic has made constant efforts to improve DPRK-U.S. relations, because the United States is the nation directly responsible for Korea's division and because the resolution of our nation's reunification is closely linked with the U.S. policy on Korea.

The United States is the nation directly responsible for the Korean question. Because the United States militarily occupied South Korea, our people, who inherited the same blood on the same land for several thousand years and who created the same culture and history, were divided into two, and antagonism and confrontation were caused between the North and the South. Because the United States reduced South Korea to a nuclear forward base and has frequently staged provocative military exercises against the northern half of the Republic, the danger of war—the danger of nuclear war—is rapidly increasing and more grave barriers to national reunification have been erected. The United States was not only one of the warring countries in the Korean war but also was a party concerned with the Korean Armistice Agreement. The United States cannot evade at all its direct responsibility for Korea's division and tensions.

The United States should play an affirmative role in guaranteeing peace on the Korean peninsula and achieving Korea's reuunification because it is directly responsible for the Korean question. Doing so is natural from the standpoints of international justice and morality. This notwithstanding, the United States has regarded the Korean question as one that should be resolved only between the North and the South. This is a wrong attitude designed to evade reponsibility in solving the Korean question.

Priority tasks in solving the Korean question are to alleviate tensions on the Korean peninsula and to guarantee durable peace there. Only by doing so can we provide peaceful circumstances for national reunification and achieve the country's reunification. For this end, it is imperative first of all to achieve reconciliation and trust between the North and the South, to conclude a peace agreement between the DPRK and the United States, to sharply reduce the size of the North's and South's armed forces, and to withdraw U.S. nuclear weapons and U.S. forces from South Korea. The responsibility of the United States in this regard is very important.

The United States should not only resolve the issue of replacing the Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement by sitting face to face with us, but also should take measures for withdrawing its forces from South Korea. The United States should also provide active cooperation in achieving reconciliation and trust between North and South Korea, in realizing disarmament on the Korean peninsula and in establishing a nuclear-free zone there. By doing so, the United States should make contributions to creating circumstances and conditions favorable for Korea's reunification.

If the United States is to perform such responsibilities, it is necessary for it to rectify its wrong policy toward Korea first. The issues of guaranteeing peace on the Korean peninsula and achieving the country's reunification are closely related to the U.S. policy toward Korea.

Today's changed reality more clearly shows that the U.S. policy toward Korea is behind the times and does not accord with the interests of the people of the United States. The U.S. policy toward Korea is based on the anachronistic way of thinking, which approaches the Korean question from the old viewpoint of the cold war era. The United States has held on to South Korea as a forward base to check other countries and is trying to dominate our country, using it as a foothold. This is why the United States has continued to keep its armed forces of aggression in South Korea, imposing a military threat upon our Republic, despite the collapse of the confrontational relations between the East and the West and despite the fact that the atmosphere for our nation's peaceful reunification is unprecedentedly improving and that, in particular, the North- South agreement and the joint declaration on denuclearization were effectuated and are now in the implementation stage.

The United States, raving about our nonexistent "nuclear weapons development," is staging "mandatory inspection" and "sanctions" commotions against us. At the same time, the United States has been continually bringing new modern weapons and modern military equipment into South Korea behind the veil of "disarmament," thereby upgrading the arms in terms of quality, and has been conducting daily various types of military exercises designed to attack us. This is an intensive expression of the wrong U.S. policy of regarding us as an enemy. This policy of the United States is aimed at hampering the implementation of the North-South agreement, reversing the trend of detente on the Korean peninsula, and erecting obstacles continuously in the way of the fatherland's reunification.

The U.S. Korean policy is a policy of confrontation from a position of strength aimed at helping the South Korean authorities realize their ambition for "unification by prevailing over communism" by holding South Korea permanently as its military base and bringing our Republic under control. Unless the United States abandons this policy toward Korea, tensions on the Korean peninsula cannot be alleviated nor can the country's peaceful reunification be achieved. If the Korean question is not resolved because of the United States' wrong Korean policy, our nation will continue to suffer from great pain and misfortune. This will be detrimental to the improvement of the situation in Asia and the world. This is not in conformity with the interest and desire of the people of the United States.

It is the historical inevitability and trend of our times that nations divided artificially by outside forces will be reunified into one. It is a criminal act contradicting the historical trend that the United States holds South Korea continuously as its military base, unjustly interfering in our nation's internal problems, prolonging confrontation, and obstructing reunification.

If the United States truly respects the right of all nations to freely choose and decide their own destiny, it should support our country's reunification and guarantee peace on the Korean peninsula as a party directly responsible for the Korean question. If the United States does this, the world's peace-loving people will welcome it.

Committee Denounces U.S. 'Nuclear Submarine Port'

*SK1209155992 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1524 GMT 12 Sep 92*

[Text] Pyongyang September 12 (KCNA)—The Korean Anti-Nuke Peace Committee issued a statement today concerning the continued calls of U.S. strategic and tactical nuclear submarines at facilities of the U.S. strategic nuclear submarine port built in Somo Island, Chinhae, South Korea.

The statement says:

It is a publicly recognised fact that U.S. nuclear weapons have been introduced and stockpiled in South Korea. But it is the first time that the fact has been confirmed by testimonies of those in charge of them.

The U.S. and the South Korean authorities now cannot deny that they continuously brought nuclear weapons into South Korea even after the adoption and effectuation of the inter-Korean agreement and the joint denuclearization declaration.

The fact proves that the South Korean chief executive's declaration on the absence of nuclear weapons late last year and the U.S. President's declaration on the withdrawal of nuclear weapons from South Korea are lies.

The Korean Anti-Nuke Peace Committee brands the acts of the U.S. and the South Korean authorities in turning South Korea into an aggressive nuclear base as a wanton challenge to and an unpardonable betrayal of the inter-Korean agreement and the joint declaration on denuclearization and bitterly denounces their criminal scheme of a nuclear war.

While getting overheated in the anti-DPRK campaign over the nuclear problem, the U.S. and the South Korean authorities persistently opposed the DPRK-proposed simultaneous nuclear inspection and overall nuclear inspection between the North and the South, because they feared that such thing as the nuclear submarine base in Chinhae should be discovered and their nuclear war preparations be exposed.

They must admit, though belatedly, portcalls of nuclear submarines at South Korea and their criminal preparations for a nuclear war, totally withdraw the nuclear weapons and bases and immediately give up all slanders and anti-DPRK campaign over the problem of nuclear inspection of the North.

If the South Korean authorities have a shred of national conscience, they must stop the treacherous act of leaving the national territory to outside forces as a nuclear base and nuclear war field, get the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons withdrawn from South Korea as demanded by the fellow countrymen and faithfully implement the joint declaration on denuclearization.

Third IAEA Inspection Team Departs

SK1509105892 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1052 GMT 15 Sep 92

[Text] Pyongyang September 15 (KCNA)—The third irregular inspection team of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) led by section chief of the Safeguard Department of the IAEA Wily Theis left here today by air.

Paper Alleges U.S-Japan Military Expansion Plan

SK1109112892 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1007 GMT 11 Sep 92

[Text] Pyongyang September 11 (KCNA)—Japanese Chief Cabinet Secretary Kato and commander-in-chief of the U.S. Armed Forces in the Asia-Pacific Larson were reported to have shared the view at a secret confab that the presence of U.S. forces in the Far East and Asia-Pacific is necessary and the aggressive U.S.-Japan "security pact" must be maintained.

Commenting on this, a NODONG SINMUN analyst today says this reveals the attempt of the U.S. and Japanese reactionaries to maintain and expand their military domination over this region although the cold war has come to an end.

The news analyst goes on:

The U.S.-Japan "security pact" is a product of military tie-up between the United States, which seeks to turn the territory of Japan into a network of military bases and revive and rearm Japanese militarism and use them as a a"shock force" for aggression on Asia, and Japan which is intending to become a military power as quickly as possible and thus set out on the road of overseas aggression.

The United States is trying to establish domination over the Far East and Asia-Pacific by dint of "strength." Hence, it is still keeping its forces in the Asia-Pacific including South Korea allegedly to maintain "stability" and binding Japan to its aggressive war strategy.

And Japan is working to gratify her wild ambition for overseas aggrandizement by taking advantage of the U.S. war strategy.

The arrows of the U.S.-Japan "security pact" are aimed at the Korean peninsula for the present. This is well illustrated by the fact that the United States is further reinforcing the U.S. forces present in South Korea with latest means of war and staging joint military exercises like Rimpac with Japan and South Korea. The U.S.-Japan "security pact" is the very factor that creates the danger of war and jeopardizes peace in the Far East and Asia- Pacific.

For peace and security in the Far East and Asia-Pacific, the U.S.-Japan "security pact" must be abolished and U.S. forces be withdrawn from the region including South Korea.

Efforts To Enhance NAM's Role Urged

SK1209124192 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1029 GMT 12 Sep 92

["The NAM (Nonaligned Movement) Will Continue To Advance Forcefully"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang September 12 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today runs a signed article headlined "The NAM [Nonaligned Movement] Will Continue To Advance Forcefully."

Pointing out that the 10th summit conference of the non-aligned countries in Indonesia fully discharged its responsibility for the times and history in conformity with the desire and expectation of the progressive people and made a positive contribution to the political development of the world, the paper says:

This is a blow to the reactionary forces of the world who attempt to weaken and destroy the Non-Aligned Movement which has grown in scope and strength as a powerful independent and peaceful force of our times since it emerged on the scene of history as an independent political force.

At the same time, it is a great encouragement to the progressive mankind who value justice and peace and aspire after a free, equitable, equal, democratic and prosperous, new world where there is neither domination and subjugation nor aggression and war.

The Korean people are greatly pleased that the summit conference was sucessfully held even under the very complicated situation, thus marking a new landmark in the history of the NAM and paving the road for its continued strengthening and development.

The whole course of the summit conference is a clear proof of the justness and vitality of the idea and theory of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song on the NAM.

In his answers to the questions raised by the editor-in-chief of the Indonesian paper THE MEDIA INDONESIA on September 1, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song gave answers to the theoretical and practical questions arising in surmounting new obstacles and difficulties in the way of the NAM and in continuously developing it forcefully.

The idea and theory on the NAM newly expounded by Comrade Kim Il-song will serve as a strong impetus to strengthening and developing this movement and advancing the people's cause of independence and peace not only for the present but also in the future.

The government and people of our Republic will in the future, too, as in the past, firmly unite and closely cooperate with the other non-aligned countries under the banner of anti-imperialist independence and anti-war peace and thereby resolutely defend the basic ideal and goal of the movement, remain loyal to them to the last and make every possible effort to enhance its role.

PRC, Cuban Papers Observe DPRK Anniversary

SK1209051692 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0444 GMT 12 Sep 92

[Text] Pyongyang September 12 (KCNA)—Chinese and Cuban publications carried articles on the 44th anniversary of the founding of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

In an editorial titled "Congratulations on 44th Founding Anniversary of the DPRK", the Chinese PEOPLE'S DAILY September 9 said:

The Korean people under the leadership of President Kim Il-song and the Workers' Party of Korea have surmounted manifold obstacles in the spirit of hard struggle and self-reliance and forcefully accelerated the building of their country while maintaining socialism and thus registered remarkable achievements, bringing unprecedented changes in Korea.

China and the DPRK are friendly neighbours linked together by mountains and rivers and Sino-Korean friendship has a solid foundation as it was formed and nursed personally by Comrades Mao Zedong and Zhou Enlai and Comrade Kim Il-song, the paper said, and stressed:

The Chinese people will in the future, too, as in the past, support the Korean people's cause of socialist construction and the independent and peaceful reunification of their country and make every possible effort to consolidate and develop Sino-Korean friendship.

The PRENSA LATINA news agency of Cuba September 7 said that the DPRK was founded according to the general will of the entire Korean people in the North and the South.

The Korean people under the wise leadership of President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il are waging a powerful struggle to force the U.S. troops, a constant threat of war, out of South Korea and achieve the reunification of their country, it added.

On the same day, Radio Havana said:

It can be said with conviction that socialism is making a long drive in the DPRK even under the complicated circumstances in which the imperialists are vociferating about the "end" of socialism, because the Workers' Party of Korea is firmly maintaining the socialist principles.

South Delegation Arrives for Next Round of Talks

SK1509045492 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0439 GMT 15 Sep 92

[Text] Pyongyang September 15 (KCNA)—The South side's delegation and its party arrived in Pyongyang today by car to participate in the 8th North-South high-level talks.

Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who is heading our side's delegation, met the members of the South side's delegation with Chong Won-sik as the chief delegate at Paekhwa Guest House, their lodging place.

A spokesman of the South side's delegation made public a statement upon arrival here.

Prior to this, the South side's delegation came into our side's portion through Panmunjom.

Members of our side's delegation to the inter-Korean high-level talks, including Kim Kwang-chin, vice marshal of the Korean People's Army [KPA]; An Pyong-su, vice chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland and spokesman of our side's delegation; Paek Nam-chun, director of the secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland; Kim Chong-u, vice minister of external economic affairs; Choe U-chin, roving ambassador of foreign affairs; and KPA Major General Kim Yong-chol met the South side's delegation at Tongil House and accompanied it to Pyongyang.

South Blamed for Failure of Annexed Agreement

SK1509095892 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0010 GMT 15 Sep 92

[NODONG SINMUN 15 September special article: "The South Side Should Be Held Responsible for Failure in Preparing Annexed Agreement"]

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: Responsible authorities in the North and the South pledged before the nation to put into effect the documents of agreement adopted at the sixth North-South high-level talks.

The North-South agreement is a pledge the North and the South made before the nation, and sincere implementation of the agreement is a duty we should not ignore.

Since the seventh North-South high-level talks, seven Political Subcommittee meetings of the North-South high-level talks for implementation of the North-South agreement and joint denuclearization declaration; eight Military Subcommittee meetings; seven Cooperation and Exchange Subcommittee meetings; eight Joint Nuclear Control Commission meetings; and many meetings between chairmen and members of each subcommittee were held between the North and the South.

At the seventh North-South high-level talks, the two sides agreed to prepare an annexed agreement on North-South reconciliation before the eighth North-South high-level talks, to organize a joint committee for reconciliation between the North and the South, and to prepare the annexed agreements on nonaggression and cooperation and exchange by 1 September and 5 September respectively.

However, the South side, running counter to the spirit of the North-South agreement and to agreements between the two sides, adhered to premeditated delaying tactics at talks and insisted on the position of relying on outside forces and pursuing division. As a result, the annexed agreements were not adopted. All fellow countrymen cannot suppress their disappointment about this.

Our side made every sincere effort to adopt an annexed agreement in each subcommittee meeting, being faithful to the agreement reached by both sides.

From the outset, our side put forward realistic, reasonable, just, and fair drafts for the agreement containing concrete measures for implementation of the North-South agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression and cooperation and exchange in conformity with the spirit of the agreement. Thus, we came to the talks to discuss the problems with a sincere attitude.

Under the condition that the South side adhered to unreasonable proposals, our side talked patiently with the South about the unreasonable nature of such proposals and on many occasions put forward revised plans, as well as compromise plans, which broadly accepted the South side's intents, thus making sincere and active efforts.

Keeping a close watch over the South Korean authorities' confrontational and warlike behavior toward us behind the curtain of dialogue, our side repeatedly urged the South to halt the criminal maneuvers, which spoil the atmosphere of dialogue, immediately.

This proceeded from a firm will to open a decisive phase for national reconciliation, unity, peace, and peaceful reunification by implementing the North-South agreement at an early date in compliance with desire of all fellow countrymen.

However, the South's position and attitude at the talks were directly opposite to ours. From the very beginning, the South adhered to premeditated delaying tactics. Above all, it failed to come with any draft of annexed agreement and denied the adoption of the agreement itself, thus laying artificial obstacles to solving problems.

The mission of subcommittees of the North-South high-level talks is to discuss and adopt the annexed agreements which contain concrete steps for implementing the North-South agreement. Therefore, only when the annexed agreements are available can the discussion of problems be possible.

However, from the outset, the South side came empty-handed without a draft of any annexed agreement and raised ridiculous issues, thus making it impossible to begin even the discussion of problems.

A good example of this is that the South side came to Political and Military Subcommittees meetings without drafts of annexed agreements and stubbornly insisted that the annexed agreement itself is not necessary. It also hindered progress in dialogue by provoking us over our nuclear issue, which is not an issue at all.

From the beginning, the South side has not welcomed the fulfillment of the North-South agreement. Also, there is no room to discuss the fact that the South side was engrossed in avoiding and delaying the North-South agreement.

In the draft of the annexed agreement, the South side openly included paragraphs that show dependence on outside forces and are aimed at division. The South side persistently insisted that this annexed agreement must be adopted. Therefore, this created a barrier in discussing problems. This clearly shows the South side's insincere attitude for dialogue.

If the North-South agreement is to be sincerely fulfilled, fundamental and detailed measures should be included in the content of the annexed agreement. The content should be composed so that the paragraphs on the agreement, including ones on North-South reconciliation, North-South nonaggression, and North-South cooperation and exchange based on the three principles of the fatherland's reunification, can be put into practice. While considering the three principles of the fatherland's reunification—self-dependence, peaceful reunification, and great national unity—on its own, the South side is avoiding resolving the fundamentally important problem in fulfilling the agreement. Rather, the South side continuously insists on opinions that show dependence on outside forces and are aimed at division.

In the North-South Political Subcommittee meeting, the South side openly established a splittist chapter called general provisions in the draft of the annexed agreement. A prime example of this is that the South side persistently opposed the problem of eliminating the legal and systematic devices that are contrary to national reconciliation and unity.

The general provisions presented by the South side are to adhere to and legitimize division. The general provisions are not even included in the content of the agreement. In the past North-South high-level talks, the South side, upon receiving our strong inquiries on the general provisions, withdrew the general provisions of its own accord.

If national reconciliation and unity are to be achieved, the antireunification and fascist vicious laws, including the National Security Law which regards the fellow countrymen as enemies, and legal and systematic devices must be eliminated certainly. It is too self-evident that national reconciliation cannot be achieved if these stumbling blocks are left intact.

Nevertheless, the South side is insisting on the general provisions and is frantically opposing the elimination of the legal and systematic devices that are contrary to reunification. This is nothing but a planned maneuver to obstruct the adoption of the annexed agreement.

In the North-South Military Subcommittee meeting, the South side persistently opposed the issue of ending the increase of forces in the area of the Military Demarcation Line; the issue of prohibiting all reconnaissance activity; and the issue of not joining with a third country in armed aggression against the other side, all of which are regarded as necessary for fulfilling North-South nonaggression.

labor and other political and social circles on the plea of "investigation" into the "case" and totally destroy all the anti-"DLP" force that stand in the way of their stay in "power" and thus gratify the ambition to remain in office for another term through election fraud backed by government power again.

They are also seeking to aggravate the North-South relations and put the brake on the implementation of the North-South agreement and joint declaration on denuclearization and thereby prolong the present tensions and division of the country for an indefinite period and, furthermore, to provide a pretext for the U.S. military occupation of South Korea and for the U.S. imperialists' nuclear war policy.

The CPRF vehemently denounces the "old spy case" fabricated by the South Korean authorities as a fascist outrage against democracy, the nation and reunification.

The South Korean authorities must immediately release all the people whom they arrested unwarrantably on charges of complicity in the "old spy case," stop at once their fascist suppression of pro- reunification democratic forces and anti-DPRK smear campaign and give up the plot for election fraud by government power and moves to aggravate the North-South relations.

South Korea

Editorial Views 'Shifting U.S. Trade Policy'

SK1509045092 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 15 Sep 92 p 6

[Editorial: "Shifting U.S. Trade Policy"]

[Text] A succession of recent announcements made by Washington concerning its trade relations with Taipei, Riyadh and Beijing speaks for a drastic change of the American mind. It undoubtedly is an outcome of the Bush administration's hard rethinking and uphill effort to boost the Republican chances of reelecting its presidential candidate in November.

In part, foreign policy considerations to appease its trading partners have gone into the decisions. But the weight of foreign policy is overshadowed by the pressing concern of the White House to make a breakthrough on the domestic front. It seeks to reverse their low voter popularity, trailing behind the Democratic standard bearer in most opinion polls, by gaining points through a switch in foreign trade policy.

Earlier last Friday President Bush announced the sale of 72 F-15 jet fighters to Saudi Arabia despite Israeli objections. It came as the second in a series of election-year announcements to increase exports and protect U.S. jobs. The announcement was preceded by a similar one of Washington's decision to sell 150 F-16 fighters to Taiwan, understandably infuriating China.

Then, the State Department said that China would be allowed to buy six U.S.-made communications satellites, waiving legislative restrictions. U.S. officials acknowledged that these actions based on "national security interests" will help reduce the U.S. trade deficit and provide jobs for American workers. Washington has also offered the sale of F-16 fighters to Malaysia.

The approval given to the successive sales of arms and strategic technology strikes many as inconsistent with the positive trend of the times toward arms control and progressive relaxation which the United States has publicly supported. Massive exports of military aircraft to these countries might lead to a revival of old tensions and an arms race redolent of the Cold War era.

In some measure, these lucrative contracts dispensed to the American military industry will help to secure thousands of jobs in such major battlegrounds for the presidential contest as Texas, California and Missouri. At the same time, the general response of the U.S. electorate to these arms sales is not all rosy.

The United States would do well to temper its bilateral arms deals running counter to its policy of detente and disarmament with broader foreign policy considerations and avoid creating uncertainties and misgivings on the part of its friends and partners. It is necessary to preserve global trust in the firmness and coherence of American foreign policy.

'Trade Feud' With PRC Over Tariffs Possible

SK1409150192 Seoul MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN in Korean 14 Sep 92 p 4

[Text] Signs of a trade feud are appearing between Korea and China, because China, following the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries, is demanding that Korea lift emergency tariffs on its agricultural products and manufactured goods, especially light industrial goods, and not increase the number of items on which emergency tariffs are imposed.

A government office said on 14 September that emergency tariffs of 100 percent were imposed on 21 items imported from China, including agricultural products, during the first half of 1992 and that the Ministry of Finance has asked the Ministry of Trade and Industry to estimate the damage done to domestic industries by Chinese imports in the belief that emergency tariffs should be imposed on another 20-30 items imported from China in order to protect domestic manufacturers.

Nonetheless, the Ministry of Trade and Industry considers the imposition of additional emergency tariffs difficult, given China's strong objection, President No Tae-u's planned visit to China, and the upcoming talks between the two countries' trade and commerce ministers.

In particular, China sent Tian Runzhi, assistant minister of foreign economic relations and trade, to Korea right after the ROK and China had signed the agreement to establish diplomatic relations between them, to strongly demand that Korea lift the emergency tariffs already levied upon its goods imported by Korea.

In addition, China has hinted that it would once again make the same demand when the two countries' ministers of trade and commerce hold talks in Beijing on 27 September during President No Tae-u's visit to China. China has also reacted sensitively to the ROK Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries' move to curb Chinese agricultural products imports, which have risen sharply in recent months.

Alarmed by the rising trade deficit with China, which has grown from $715 million in 1990 to $1.07 billion in 1992, and by the dramatic increase in the import of agricultural products and light industrial goods from China, the Korean Government this year imposed emergency tariffs, 51 percent at the lowest and 100 percent at the highest, on 21 items from China, including such agricultural products as bracken, mudfish, mushrooms, and soybean malt, and such light industrial goods as cotton gloves, towels, and firebricks.

What is more, the Ministry of Finance has asked the Ministry of Trade and Industry to determine what rate of emergency tariffs to impose on 20-30 items, such as electric insulation goods, crane blocks, remote control devices, and electronic modules. However, the Ministry of Trade and Industry official said that "it is difficult to levy emergency tariffs on additional items, given the present atmosphere."

A high-ranking Ministry of Trade and Industry official expressed his concern by saying: Given its standing and the expanding trade volume with our country, I am sure that China will emerge as another country putting trade pressure on our country, along with the United States, Japan, and the EC.

Taiwan Demand for Official Relations Rejected

SK1409160892 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 1500 GMT 14 Sep 92

[Text] The Taiwan Government notified the ROK of its demand that future relations with the ROK following the severance of diplomatic ties between the two countries be akin to diplomatic relations and that ambassadorial-level representative offices be established between the two countries.

Wang Kai, former councillor at the Taiwan Embassy to Korea, informed Kim Sok-u, director-general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Asian Affairs Bureau, of such a stance when he visited the latter on 14 September. He insisted that the representative office to be opened should be ambassadorial-level and be given full diplomatic status and privileges.

Former Councillor Wang also demanded that the ROK guarantee the purchase of land for the construction of the representative office and the permit necessary for its construction, that the official name the Republic of China be used, if possible [kagupchok], in negotiations between the two countries' working delegations, and that the representative office be allowed to fly the Taiwan national flag.

In response to this, Kim Sok-u, director-general of the Asian Affairs Bureau, said that the ROK's relations with Taiwan cannot be other than unofficial and, therefore, that the use of the official name and the flying of the national flag would be impossible and that the representative office's staff, including the representative himself, would have civilian status officially.

Director-general Kim said that the representative office's staff will, in fact, be given a broad range of privileges akin to those enjoyed by diplomats. He added that the ROK Government will not insistently demand that diplomatic passports already issued to them will be changed to general passports.

Economic Cooperation Meeting With Taiwan Unlikely

SK1509031392 Seoul YONHAP in English 0135 GMT 15 Sep 92

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 15 (YONHAP)—The 25th joint meeting of the South Korea-Taiwan Economic Cooperation Committee may never take place, an official at the Federation of Korean Industries (FKI) said Tuesday.

The official, who asked not to be identified, said that the meeting, scheduled for Oct. 28-30 in Seoul, would probably be canceled due to the situation between the two nations.

The countries have severed official ties and Pak Yong-hak, head of the Dainong Group, has quit as Korean-side chairman of the committee.

The longest-lasting such committee, it was set up in 1968 centering on FKI and the Chinese National Association of Industry and Commerce (CNAIC).

During the 24th meeting, the two sides agreed to establish a joint cooperative body to lessen dependency on Japan, expand technological cooperation and allow Korean companies to participate in Taiwan's six-year construction project.

The agreements were nullified with the severance of diplomatic ties and a long delay in selection of a new chairman for the Korean side has cast a dark cloud over the prospects for a 25th meeting.

FKI, which serves as a window for economic cooperation on a private level, has had enormous difficulty picking a replacement for Pak.

"An influential person should assume the chairmanship to settle the current crisis between the two countries at the earliest date possible," the FKI official said. "However, such people are reluctant to take the post."

Cultural Promotion Accord Initialed With Russia

SK1509091292 Seoul YONHAP in English 0634 GMT 15 Sep 92

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 14 (YONHAP)—South Korean and Russian officials initialled Tuesday a cultural agreement that is expected to help promote Korean traditions and cultural traits among ethnic Koreans living in Russia.

The accord, initialled by South Korean Vice Foreign Minister No Chang-hui and Russian Ambassador Aleksandr Panov, will be signed by the foreign ministers of the two countries during Russian President Boris Yeltsin's visit in November.

South Korea put a provision in the agreement that the two sides should make efforts to understand and recognize the culture and history of each other. The provision was thought necessary to implant an accurate view of South Korea in Russian minds, Foreign Ministry officials said.

The agreement calls for the two countries to cooperate in such areas of culture as education, art, science, the performing arts, literature, publishing, mass communications, and physical education.

It also calls for each nation to promote the language and traditions of each other's country among ethnic minorities from that country.

Nation Gains From Bilateral Talks at APEC

SK1309030492 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 13 Sep 92 pp 1, 9

["News analysis" by KOREA HERALD correspondent Choe Song-chin; all quotation marks as published]

[Text] With the fourth APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation) ministerial conference being widely hailed as an overall success, the Korean delegation appears to have struck even greater gold from various bilateral talks.

That, however, is not to say that the 25-member Korean officials, led by Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok and Trade and Industry Minister Han Pong-su, gained little at the main forum of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, particularly in terms of economic results, said a ranking Korean delegate upon the two-day meeting's closure Friday.

First of all, said Assistant Trade and Industry Minister Yu Tuk-hwan, Korea succeeded to be included as a member in the proposed EPG (Eminent Persons Group). It was not easy for Korea to send an official to the prestigious group being sandwiched between the two major blocs of Southeast Asian industrial countries, Yu said.

"I think most countries may have recognized Korea's role as a 'bridge' among the often-conflicting subgroups in the 15 member organization," the assistant minister said.

MTI [Ministry of Trade and Industry] Minister Han Pong-su's well-timed proposal to induce the private sector's participation in various work projects received unanimous approval, other delegates said.

Minister Han's call for greater participation by private businesses in one cooperative projects, in addition to the current government-oriented efforts at the forum, was endorsed by the U.S. delegation and mentioned during the chairman's remarks at the closing session of the two-day meeting, they noted.

The Canadian and U.S. delegations, upon hearing Korea's concerns about the possible adverse trade effects that may be caused by the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), promised that they would send official missions to explain that such worries are unfounded, at the request of Korean officials, Yu said.

In a broader context, the political and economic cooperative body of Pacific-basin countries gained decisive momentum for its future growth, Yu said.

The United States has so far maintained a less than earnest stance in the organization with its dominant priorities focused on the Uruguay Round of trade liberalization talks and the NAFTA formation. To gain support for its efforts to admit Mexico into the body, however, America will need to show more sincerity," said Yu.

The six-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations also participated more actively, as evidenced by their swift compromise over the site selection for the permanent secretariat, the MTI official pointed out, adding that these changes in some major member groups bode well for APEC's future.

"As if to display its forward stance as an eager APEC member, the United States will likely host the fifth ministerial meeting at either San Francisco or Seattle, both Pacific coastal cities," instead of Washington D.C., Yu said.

Another significant development in the multilateral context was that the United States and Australia have rekindled a trade dispute over the recent U.S. wheat subsidy, which Yu said is expected to put the already troubled GATT free trade talks into further turmoil.

It used to be America and the EC that have blocked the early settlement of the five-year round which has already outlived its initial negotiation deadline, and now the Cairns Group of farm-export countries seem to have joined the tug-of-war, Yu said."

"The latest development may lead one to conclude that some farm importing countries, including Korea and Japan, due to their resistance against full agricultural market opening, no longer have to bear the full brunt of the criticism for delaying the talks," said the official, adding that "however, we will as we have in the past, continue to do our best for the smooth finale of the troubled negotiations."

Summing up the multilateral results of the just-ended meeting, he said that NAFTA's creation worked as a stimulant for closer and firmer unity among the otherwise loosely-woven group of countries too wide apart from one another in their wealth and politico-economic circumstances, Yu said.

"These outcomes under the multilateral context notwithstanding," the senior MTI official said, "I would rather put greater significance and gains on the several 'bilateral' meetings we had with major partners during the talks."

Yu said he could repeatedly confirm in those meetings that the MTI's timely switch of trade policy emphasis from merchandise trade gains to one stressing industrial cooperation with countries of various industrial levels.

Yu cited as an example the PEI (Presidents' Economic Initiative) agreed upon between President No Tae-u and U.S. President George Bush in Seoul early this year, which will combine America's superior basis technology and Korea's commercializing and manufacturing prowess.

And then, Yu said, we managed somehow to establish a foundation co-financed by both Korea and Japan, aimed at facilitating Japanese technology transfer to Korea in a strengthened form of industrial cooperation.

Minister Han, during his 11-day tour of three Pacific-basin nations which also led him to New Zealand and Australia, could also achieve similar agreements in Canberra.

Under the tentatively named Korea-Australia Science and Industry Program (KASIP), the Australians are ready to do much the same as the Americans promised to.

"Now, it was our turn to make a similar proposal, Yu said. He added that the Chinese Minister for Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Li Lanqing, during his meeting with Minister Han here, delivered Beijing's intention to form industrial cooperative ties in such areas as agriculture, energy, transportation, telecommunications, steel and chemicals.

The Chinese officials said China has some scientific geniuses but lacks in experience and know-how to use them for economic development, Yu said.

Thailand, the host of the fourth APEC ministerial session, did not fail to come up with a proposal of its own for a similar purpose he said. Also during the bilateral trade ministers' talks, Thai Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on hoped that the two countries' small and medium-sized companies would boost cooperation, particularly in general machinery areas, the MTI official said.

Disclosing that fresh approach to trade-industry policy came at Minister Han's initiative during his visit to the United States in May, Yu quoted Han as repeatedly saying in the bilateral talks, "In this era of corporate and economic globalization, only forming reciprocal cooperative networks with as many countries as possible, instead of sticking to shortsighted trade balance sheets, will lead us to win the borderless war of business."

Delegation Arrives in Pyongyang for N-S Talks

SK1509030792 Seoul YONHAP in English 0252 GMT 15 Sep 92

[Text] Pyongyang, Sept. 15 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korean Prime Minister Chong Won-sik and his delegation arrived in the North Korean capital Tuesday for the eighth round of prime ministers' talks.

The seven delegates, 33 aides and 50 journalists crossed the border in the truce village of Panmunjom and drove up a new highway to Pyongyang.

"We hope to reaffirm both sides' will to abide by the joint declaration on the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula for a chance of a breakthrough in the nuclear problem," South Korean spokesman Yi Tong-pok said in an arrival statement.

"We hope to settle on the subsidiary agreements and start on the implementation to throw open an era of inter-Korean reconciliation and cooperation," he said, naming the two top tasks in this round of talks.

There will be an open session Wednesday and a closed one on Thursday. Chong and North Korean Premier Yon Hyong-muk will each make keynote speeches on the first session on the protocols, nuclear controversy and family reunions.

Chong is expected to urge adoption of the protocols on reconciliation, nonaggression, and exchanges and cooperation, put them into effect and start implementation.

Sources said Seoul is willing to adopt the protocols only on the agreed parts, leaving out the unsettled sections for further negotiations by subcommittees.

Chong is to demand that the family reunions aborted in August be rescheduled for next month. He is to reiterate that there will be no substantial progress in inter-Korean relations until North Korea accepts simultaneous nuclear inspection with South Korea.

Subcommittee chairmen will meet after Wednesday's morning session for last-minute talks on the reconciliation and nonaggression protocols.

If the meetings prove successful, the prime ministers will adopt and put into effect the subsidiary agreements at Thursday's session.

The South Koreans will tour People's Cultural Palace, venue of the talks, Tuesday afternoon and Premier Yon will host a welcome dinner.

Chong and his delegation are to return to Seoul Friday.

Further on Arrival in Pyongyang

SK1509120092 Seoul YONHAP in English 0724 GMT 15 Sep 92

[Text] Pyongyang, Sept. 15 (YONHAP)—South Korean Prime Minister Chong Won-sik and his delegation passed fields of corn and rice heavy with grain as they drove up to Pyongyang Tuesday.

The delegation reached Paekhwawon Guest House around noon for the eighth inter-Korean prime ministers' talks after a two-hour trip up the 170km-long, 24m-wide, four lane Kaesong-Pyongyang Highway, completed this April.

Previous delegations traveled by train.

Soldiers were assigned to build the highway in December 1987 as a birthday present for North Korean leader Kim Il-song, guides explained along the way.

The highway has 18 tunnels, including one 1 km long, and 84 bridges, and awaits two more layers of tarmac, they said.

The gilded fields looked rich and ready for harvest, but no farmers were in sight. Nearby hills lay bare, red soil exposed, while the roadside was garnished with occasional acacia trees.

The hills were decorated with banners reading "Let's live our way" and "We do what the party decides."

The delegates saw a rest area about 80km outside Pyongyang, but were driven straight past it.

—South Korean delegation spokesman Yi Tong-pok issued an arrival statement immediately after reaching the Paekhwawon Guest House, accenting a new order in Northeast Asia.

"The cold war has thawed and the wave of openness, reconciliation and cooperation is sweeping the world. New order is emerging in Northeast Asia that is advantageous to (Korean) peaceful reunification," he said.

"The dictate of action now for all countries and people of the world is not ideology but economic interest," he said, calling on the two sides to shed confrontation for mutual prosperity.

The South Korean delegation to the eighth South-North prime ministers meeting drove to the Paekhwawon Guest House in Pyongyang at 12:03 P.M. Tuesday.

At the porch of the guest house, Prime Minister Chong Won-sik and other southern delegates were greeted by the North's Premier Yon Hyong-muk and other North Korean officials.

"This is the first time we visit Pyongyang in the ripening season of autumn. I hope our talks this time will be as fruitful as the season," Chong told Yon.

From the porch they proceeded to a first-floor lounge where they enjoyed chatting for about five minutes.

Prime Minister Chong said it was good to ride through the newly built Pyongyang-Kaesong Expressway instead of coming by train as in the past.

The North's Yon said in response that Chong's delegation was the second South Korean team to use the new freeway, the first being a women's delegation attending a Pyongyang forum.

"But, we made it as a runner-up, didn't we?" Chong said to set off a burst of laughter.

—North Korean guides as a whole assumed the attitude of not caring much about the recent diplomatic normalization between South Korea and China.

"This is something that falls on the internal affairs of China. If the Seoul-Beijing rapprochment does not undermine unification, it can't be any problem," said a guide who he said studied at Kim Il-song University.

He added that it seems China informed Pyongyang beforehand of the normalization and Pyongyang gave understanding. "But, I am not sure about it because our newspapers keep mum about it," he said.

—North Korean newspapers did not carry any story about the South Korean delegation's visit to Pyongyang.

Perhaps because of the non-reporting, Pyongyang citizens paid no particular attention to the delegation's motorcade that drove through Pyongyang streets relatively with many passers-by.

The NODONG SINMUN, the daily organ of the Workers' (Communist) Party, carried no single line of the eighth prime ministers meeting Tuesday.

The front and second pages were filled with large pictures and stories about Kim Il-song's meeting with a government delegation from Guinea of Africa.

The NODONG SINMUN and the MINJU CHOSON, the mouthpiece of the Pyongyang government, rather carried many commentaries denouncing the South. Their titles included "National Security Law Should Be Repealed" and "The South Is To Be Blamed for the Failure To Agree on Auxiliary Agreements."

Government's Goals for Current N-S Talks Cited

SK1409022592 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 13 Sep 92 p 2

[Text] The adoption and effectuation of annexed agreements pertaining to reconciliation, nonaggression, exchange, and cooperation will be discussed during the eighth North-South high-level talks in Pyongyang 15-18 September. It was learned on 12 September that the government plans to propose to the North that these agreements be adopted and put into effect according to terms settled in subcommittee meetings.

If the North does not accept this plan, the government plans to propose that the annexed agreement on exchange and cooperation either be settled separately or combined with the annexed agreement on nonaggression.

A high-ranking government official said: "It is our basic policy to settle, as much as possible, the three annexed agreements at the upcoming high-level talks." However, he said that because the two sides' differing views on reconciliation may not be reconciled easily, we plan to propose that the three agreements be adopted based only on what has already been settled during the subcommittee contacts or that the annexed agreements be adopted by using only the areas in which complete agreement is reached during the upcoming talks.

This official also noted that "the annexed agreement on exchange and cooperation has been virtually settled, and the possibility of settling the nonaggression issue by mutually removing the points of disputes is great. Therefore, if the North shows even a certain amount of flexibility toward the basic principle of 'package agreement and simultaneous implementation,' the agreement for these two fields will probably be adopted."

Current N-S Talks To Serve as 'Litmus Test'

SK1509042292 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 15 Sep 92 p 2

[By staff reporter Sin Hak-nim]

[Text] The eighth premiers talks to begin in Pyongyang today will serve as a litmus test for future inter-Korean relations from various aspects, North Korea watchers say.

The Pyongyang meeting is attracting attention in and around the country particularly because it comes about three weeks after South Korea established full diplomatic ties with China, decades-old ally of North Korea.

Discussions between ranking officials of the South and North will focus on how to promote economic exchanges and cooperation between the two sides. South and North Korea have been struggling to work out auxiliary arrangements to undertake projects in various sectors in accordance with the inter-Korean agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression, and exchanges and cooperation which went into force last February.

However, prospects for the outcome of the forthcoming talks are not so bright, according to government officials who monitor North Korean affairs.

They said there are some signs recently that conflicts are under way between moderate reformists and conservatives over the North's future course in the face of increasingly unfavorable climate for the last Stalinist country in Northeast Asia.

"Following the setup of diplomatic ties between South Korea and China last month, signs indicate that hardliners are raising their voice against reformists and technocrats," a ranking government official said.

According to another government official, unconfirmed reports have it that Kim Tal-hyon, a leading North Korean technocrat in charge of external economic relations, may have handed over his full powers for dealing with economic exchanges with South Korea to Yun Ki-pok, chairman of the Committee for Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland.

Kim, a deputy premier in charge of external economic affairs, visited South Korea from late July through early last month at the invitation of his southern counterpart Choe Kak-kyu and looked around major enterprises to sound out the possibility for joint projects.

South Korea also plans to dispatch a high-powered delegation to the North for a feasibility study on joint projects for an envisioned industrial complex in Nampo, some 45 kilometers southwest of Pyongyang.

The South and North have yet to agree on the composition of the delegation. Seoul insists that the delegation be composed of businessmen and government officials but Pyongyang demands that government officials be excluded.

Even if the South and North agree on the composition of the delegation, a visit by the delegation seems unlikely due to recent developments in the North, said a ranking official at the National Unification Board.

The official said North Korean conservatives are believed to be attempting to turn the situation around, arguing that Pyongyang's conciliatory gesture toward the South failed to gain any substantial economic benefits.

South Korea has linked its permission for investment by businesses in North Korea to the solution of Pyongyang's nuclear weapons development issue, a prerequisite set by the South for bettering inter-Korean ties and for the improvement of relations between Pyongyang and Tokyo and Washington.

Under these circumstances, North Korea has been silent on the normalization of diplomatic relations between South Korea and China on Aug. 24.

"Despite increasingly unfavorable atmosphere surrounding it, North Korea will find it difficult to close its door. Instead, Pyongyang is expected to continue to adopt a cautious, buying-time approach toward the South," observed a leading government analyst on North Korean affairs.

Burma

Parallel Government Prime Minister Interviewed

BK1509032292 (Clandestine) Democratic Voice of Burma in Burmese 1430 GMT 14 Sep 92

[Telephone interview with U Sein Win, prime minister of the National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma, by unidentified Democratic Voice of Burma (DVOB)correspondent; date, place not given—recorded]

[Text] [U Sein Win] There must be peace and prosperity in the country. There must be freedom of the press as well as other freedoms, and the time has now come for rescinding of all oppressive laws.

At present, there are still thousands of political prisoners in Burma and opposition leaders such as Daw Aung San Suu Kyi remain in detention.

[Correspondent] Yes.

[U Sein Win] Furthermore, we have no freedom whatsoever, and the civil war continues. Under these circumstance, the so-called national convention being called by the SLORC [State Law and Order Restoration Council] has no meaning, and the convention will not be able to solve any of the country's problems and contribute to the resolution of problems. It will just be a SLORC (?statement).

[Correspondent] Yes. We learned that the NCGUB [National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma] and other democratic forces had recently signed the Manerplaw Treaty with a view to achieving national unity. We would like the prime minister to further elaborate on the treaty.

[U Sein Win] The civil war will cause future problems for Burma as it has in the past crises and social and economic problems of the country. It is our most important task to end the civil war in order to build up the Union and obtain equal rights for all national races. Our future task—that of establishing a federal union—is made clear by signing the treaty containing our basic principles.

[Correspondent] Mr. Prime Minister, I would like to ask a few questions related to the United Nations. Mr. Prime Minister, we learned that the UN General Assembly in the previous years passed resolutions condemning the Burmese military government. Is it likely that a resolution of similar nature will be passed this year? I would like to know the view of the prime minister.

[U Sein Win] We will go to the UN this year together with the leaders of national races. We shall present Burma's situation to the world and stress that the problem of Burma should not be allowed to go on as it is no longer just an internal affair, but has become a problem for neighboring countries as well as the region. We shall go to present the situation in Burma clearly. The democratic and friendly countries at the UN will decide on what actions should be taken.

[Correspondent] Mr. Prime Minister, as the last question I would like to ask what kind of message you would like to pass on to the Burmese people in this interview with the DVOB?

[U Sein Win] The people of Burma shall have democracy. We are struggling for democracy and for the future unity of the Union, the perpetuation of the Union, and the establishment of a federal union with the participation of all national races. We are fighting for human rights. The prevailing concrete conditions in the country as well as the international situation will enable us to achieve our goal. Therefore, please join us in our struggle. We will continue with our work. The DVOB is reporting on our work and we will continue to inform the people of our work. We shall continue to work together with the people.

[Correspondent] Yes. We thank the prime minister very much for granting us this interview.

Authorities Release Detainees From Bassein Jail

BK1209132992 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1150 GMT 12 Sep 92

[Text] It has been learned that 23 males, against whom action was taken under existing laws and who were serving their sentences, were released today from Bassein Jail, after their remaining sentences were commuted.

BBC Cites ITN Documentary on Situation

BK1109143792 London BBC in Burmese to Burma 1345 GMT 9 Sep 92

[From the "Asian Affairs" program]

[Text] Dear listeners, it is rare to see or hear news about Burma on British television news programs because the Burmese Government rarely allows foreign journalists into Burma on an official basis to gather reports. But on 8 September British Television Channel 4 carried a more than 15-minute long report about Burma as a lead item during its 7 P.M. newscast.

The report was compiled by Lindsay Taylor, journalist from ITN [Independent Television News], who visited Burma recently and filmed the report on Burma. This is the first-ever permission granted to a foreign television news service for an official visit to Burma to gather information since the democratic uprising in Burma in 1988.

The first scene in the story was of doctors attending a refresher course at the Central Institute of Public Services in Phaunggyi, the reporter, Lindsay Taylor, narrated:

The State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], has forced doctors and staff from the Health Department in Burma attend special refresher courses at the Central Institute of Public Services in Phaunggyi. The university teachers were recently required to attend similar courses. Doctors and teachers were actually lectured at these refresher courses on subjects pertaining to political science and ideological matters that were unrelated to medical practice or subjects related to university lectures.

In interviewing a group of doctors, who were selected by the authorities from among other doctors attending these refresher courses, one said the course provided an opportunity to learn new subjects that were previously unfamiliar to him, while another claimed that what they had learned at these courses could be used in their general medical practice. The television program also showed scenes of the recently reopened Rangoon University which were taken from its main entrance with the following commentary by Lindsay Taylor:

The government officials always accompanied us wherever we went and we did not get permission to videotape on the university campus. In trying to interview teachers on their way to work at the Rangoon University campus entrance, there were barely any teachers who were willing to be interviewed. However, one teacher replied that his duty is solely to provide education to his students. When asked about the refresher course he attended recently he said everything taught there was unimportant and added that he may not be seen again the next day.

The television report also showed an aerial shot of Insein Jail which they were not allowed to enter to gather information. The Armed Forces shot and killed many unarmed civilians and arrested thousands of people during the democratic uprising in 1988. The present SLORC government has ignored the results of the general election which was held in May 1990, while there have been reports of torture of many detainees. Because of these reports, the SLORC government's international image continues to suffer and face criticism. The SLORC government has been making efforts to improve its negative internal and external image since 1992 by releasing political detainees little by little. So far, over 300 people have been released. Another 23 detainees were released on 8 September. However, the past cannot be forgotten easily, said Lindsay Taylor, who then showed footage of unarmed protesters being gunned down by the Armed Forces in front of the U.S. Embassy in Rangoon in 1988 and scenes of the wounded being carried by their fellow protesters.

The report also showed interviews with many people by Lindsay Taylor and party during their stay in Rangoon. There was also an interview with a democracy movement activist, who was imprisoned and released recently. The activist recounted the method used by the Armed Forces during the interrogation as follows:

[Begin recording of unidentified activist, speaking in English fading into superimposed Burmese translation] They have this plastic bag. They put one on your head. When you start suffocating they will take it off again and then ask you some questions and then you have to sign certain papers. You don't know what's written there. If you don't sign it they will put the plastic bag on again. Another method of torture is asking one to sit on ice blocks. The degree of torture would be a bit less if you give them the answers they want and do what they say. [end recording]

The person who made this statement was released recently. His face was shown in silhouette and his voice has been dubbed to prevent identification.

Listeners: There were also scenes of Lindsay Taylor interviewing U Aung Gyi, the leader of the Union of National Democracy Party [UNDP]; U Aung Shwe, the present leader of the National League for Democracy [NLD]; U Ohn Gyaw, SLORC's minister for foreign affairs; and U Chit Hlaing, from the National Unity Party [NUP] on the program.

U Aung Gyi said in his interview that at present the people hate the Armed Forces and that the people do not like what the Armed Forces are doing. People also do not like the Armed Forces hanging on to power for so long. People yearn for democracy.

Although U Aung Gyi was punished for sending open letters to U Ne Win, he recently sent another open letter to U Ne Win and military officers to relinquish power because the people do not want the Armed Forces running the country. While former Brigadier U Aung Gyi expressed his views in this manner, U Ohn Gyaw, the SLORC's foreign minister, said the Armed Forces is not power-mad. But when asked when power would be transferred to a civilian government, the leaders of the SLORC were unable to answer.

On matters related to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, U Aung Shwe, the present leader of the NLD, said that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was loved and cherished by the people. He said that due to circumstances, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is no longer an official member of the NLD. He said not only himself, but everyone also believes that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi should be released.

While U Aung Shwe mentioned that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi should be released, U Chit Hlaing from the NUP, which changed its name from the former Burma Socialist Program Party [BSPP] led by U Ne Win, said the following: Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is a stranger in her own country. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi left Burma when she was 13 or 14 years old. In order to obtain something, one must work hard and exert effort for years. It is inferred from U Chit Hlaing's remark that they believe one should attain the position of national leader only after years of hard work and carrying out responsibilities and duties for the country.

The former prime minister, U Nu, who was recently released from house arrest, appeared to be willing to mediate between the SLORC and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. During the interview, the former prime minister, U Nu, said: Both the government and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi must compromise and there must be give and take between the two sides. He also said he would visit Daw

Aung San Suu Kyi soon and would urge her to realize that the time has come for meeting and holding discussions with the government.

What is learned from Michael Aris, husband of Daw Aung Suu Kyi who visited her recently, is that Daw Aung Suu Kyi is ready to compromise but the government does not want to meet with her and hold talks and will not allow anyone to see her. When asked why Daw Aung Suu Kyi has not been released, U Ohn Gyaw, foreign minister, answered: We do not want to face any uncontrollable situation and anarchy like in 1988. We are gradually doing things step by step in our own way. It is necessary to be patient.

This year, SLORC has released political prisoners, met with representatives of the political parties to discuss the drafting of a new constitution, and made an announcement on holding of the National Convention before January of next year. These are efforts in the direction of democracy, but Western diplomats estimate that thousands of people are still in prison. There is still no sign of releasing Daw Aung Suu Kyi. It is yet to be seen whether these actions by the SLORC are genuine or just superficial.

The Australian Ambassador to Burma, Mr. Geoffery Charles Allen, said: Meeting with representatives of the political parties and the call for holding of the National Convention are just the beginning. Though Burmese citizens may not like the idea very much, they should make use of these opportunities. There is no open public discussion about the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi but people expect her release. They also believe that Burma will be free again after the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

Meeting Held To Discuss Joint Drug Projects

BK1209112192 Rangoon Radio Burma in English 0700 GMT 12 Sep 92

[Text] The secretary of the Myanmar [Burma] Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control, Police Major General San Thein, and Joint Secretary Police Colonel Ngwe Soe Tun yesterday afternoon held a meeting concerning projects to be jointly implemented by the Burma-China, Burma-Thai, and United Nations' International Drug Control Program Office in the PPF [People's Police Force] Headquarters meeting hall at the Office of Ministers. The meeting was attended by Adviser Mr. (John Christiantine), Project Technical Officer Mr. (C.F. Masse), and reponsible departmental heads.

Health Minister Leaves 11 Sep for Nepal Meeting

BK1109142692 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 11 Sep 92

[Text] A Myanmar [Burmese] delegation led by Colonel Pe Thein, minister for health and education, left by air for Nepal via Bangkok today to attend the 10th meeting of health ministers from Southeast Asia to be held in Kathmandu under the auspices of the World Health Organization.

Minister Col. Pe Thein was seen off at the airport by U Khin Maung Yin, minister of construction; U Soe Tha, minister for transport and communications; Col. Than Lwin, deputy health minister; Mr. (Surat Prasat Prahan), charge d'affaires ad interim of the Nepalese Embassy; Dr. (Klaus Wertner), WHO resident representative in Yangon [Rangoon]; and officials from the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Presence of '2,000 Refugees' From Aceh Denied

BK0409093892 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba has denied a report that there are more than 2,000 refugees from the Indonesian region of Aceh in Malaysia. He said there were only 42 Aceh refugees who are now being cared for by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, UNHCR. A report from Sweden said more than 2,000 Aceh refugees were being mistreated in Malaysian prisons. Mr. Ghafar said this was a serious allegation and the government would like proofs of that. He was answering questions by newsmen after meeting the Canadian minister of industry, science, and technology in Kuala Lumpur today. The deputy prime minister added that Malaysia had marvellous records toward illegal immigrants and treated them in a humane manner.

'Successful Conclusion' of Uruguay Round Urged

BK1509051292 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 12 Sep 92 p 8

[Editorial: "Nebulous Path to Fair Trade"]

[Text] Today's quest in the international economic scene is for a fair spread of wealth through an open free trade system—a quest that promises developing countries an equal chance to grow and prosper. That is why there were a lot of smiles and high hopes when the Uruguay round of multilateral trade negotiations entered the first lap of its journey towards a global free trade system.

But it would appear that the promise is nebulous and free trade is still a distant dream. After several years, the Uruguay round seems to be moving in circles. How else can one explain the stalemate if not for the stubborn attitude by some nations who put self-interest above the principles of trade liberalisation and free markets.

The message from the few nations who flex their economic muscles is clear: free trade is all right so long as they stand to benefit from it and do not have to compete fairly. Worse, they indulge in the unfair practice of imposing conditions on their potential trade partners, which is a subtle form of interference in another country's internal affairs.

It is also a shame that there are nations that betray their professed commitment to principles of global trade and multilaterism. There is an upsurge in efforts towards regional economic integration all over the world. It is true that these groupings such as the East Asia Economic Caucus can lead to enhanced trade between the regions and the world at large, but there is also fear that these groupings will adopt protectionist measures.

In her usual forthright manner, International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Sri Rafidah Aziz points out that there are concerns about the possibility of non-tariff barriers emerging, trade distortion, and trade diversion. As it is, there is a protectionist trend developing in both Europe and North America.

The fear that the European single market and North American Free Trade Area (NAFTA) will each become a protectionist fortress is real. As South Korean Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok points out such blocs will cause relations between nations to suffer from endless economic skirmishes round protectionist trade barriers.

All these realities are well grasped by the 15-member Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum. But its members are clearly in some agony of mind on how to resolve the issues. Undoubtedly, one clear solution is to push for the successful conclusion of the Uruguay round. This will be a Herculean task. After all, four APEC ministerial meetings have taken place since the Uruguay round and yet the item is still or the agenda.

But to dwell on the gloom of the matter without formulating some kind of action would be fatal to the interests of its members. APEC can promote economic cooperation on the basis of equality and mutual benefit through dialogue. Rafidah is right when she says that there is value in such a dialogue within APEC to understand why countries within the region propose to undertake particular regional or subregional economic initiatives.

That said, it is important that APEC remains unwavering in its commitment to trade liberalisation and free market principles. It is vital that it monitors the evolution and operation of various regional groupings to ensure they adhere to their commitment to freer trade. Tough as it may be, APEC must let its outcry become loud enough to penetrate the sound-resistant capitals in Europe and the United States.

ASEAN Urged To Explore Philippine Markets

BK1509070592 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 15 Sep 92

[Text] ASEAN businessmen, especially those from the Malaysian private sector have been urged to further explore the Philippines' markets. Philippine Foreign Affairs Secretary Roberto Romulo said his government's pledge to dismantle monopolies and deregulate trade had renewed confidence in the business community. Speaking at a forum in Kuala Lumpur, Romulo said trade between Malaysia and the Philippines only amounted to U.S. $400 million over the last three years. He said as the Philippines [words indistinct] to its economic recovery program, it was likely to source many of its industrial inputs from nearby countries.

Philippine Foreign Secretary Calls on Mahathir

BK1409080292 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 14 Sep 92

[Text] Philippine Foreign Secretary Roberto Romulo called on Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir at the Prime Minister's Department in Kuala Lumpur today. The newly appointed foreign secretary was accompanied by Philippine Undersecretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs Rodolfo Severino and the charge d'affaires of the Philippine Embassy in Malaysia, Antonio K. Manguiac. Mr. Romulo will later call on Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He will speak on the vision of today's foreign policy at a hotel in the federal capital this afternoon. The talk is organized by the Institute of Strategic and International Studies, ISIS. Mr. Romulo is scheduled to depart for Manila tomorrow.

Meets Foreign Minister Badawi

BK1409073292 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 14 Sep 92

[Excerpt] The Philippine Government has informed Malaysia that it will not continue its claim on Sabah. The minister of foreign affairs, Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, said today his counterpart, Mr. Roberto Romulo, said this during their one-hour discussions at the Foreign Affairs Ministry in Kuala Lumpur today. The Philippine secretary said the present administration will take measures to ensure that the claim on Sabah will be dropped. However, this will depend on whatever efforts the administration can take and with the consent of the Senate.

Datuk Abdullah said the policy not to pursue the claim had already been taken during the Aquino and Marcos administrations. Malaysia will continue to wait and see how far the present Ramos administration will proceed to convince the Philippine Senate. Both foreign ministers also discussed the forthcoming ASEAN-EC dialogue in Manila and [word indistinct] of the South China Sea area. [passage omitted]

Somali Prime Minister Leaves for Home 13 Sep

BK1409081092 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 14 Sep 92

[Text] Somali Prime Minister Omar Arteh Ghalib left for home last night after a four-day visit. He hoped that Malaysia will able be to offer some forms of assistance to the country in the near future. He described the visit and his meeting with Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir as very fruitful. Mr. Ghalib was confident that contributions from Malaysia will be forthcoming.

Speaking to reporters at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Subang, he, however, declined to reveal the contributions that had been promised to Somalia. He said Somalia was very interested to send its officials for training in Malaysia in various fields, including agriculture, education, commerce, and industry. In return, Malaysia could make use of Somalia as a gateway to market its products like electrical goods, clothing, and cars to African countries.

Namibian President Arrives for Four-Day Visit

BK1409101492 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0904 GMT 14 Sep 92

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Sept 14 (OANA-BERNAMA)—President Dr. Sam Nujoma of Namibia arrived here Monday to begin a four-day state visit to Malaysia.

He was greeted at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport by Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed and Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

Dr. Nujoma, leading a 12-member entourage which included four cabinet ministers, arrived by a special Falcon 900B aircraft.

He was then introduced to dignitaries, including Malaysia's High Commissioner to Namibia, Ghazzall Sheik Abdul Khalid.

Dr. Mahathir and the other VIPs later accompanied Dr. Nujoma to Parliament Square for the official welcoming ceremony.

Receives Aid Pledge at Banquet

BK1409153292 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in Malay 1430 GMT 14 Sep 92

[Text] Malaysia has pledged to contribute as much as it can afford to help Namibia in its nation-building efforts. Namibia achieved its independence two years ago.

Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed gave the assurance in his address at a dinner banquet which was hosted in honor of the visiting Namibian President, Dr. Sam Nujoma, at his "Sri Perdana" official residence in Kuala Lumpur tonight.

The prime minister said that although Namibia had just achieved its independence, he is confident that Namibia will eventually become a progressive and prosperous nation.

Dr. Nujoma, leading a 12-member entourage which included four cabinet ministers, arrived this afternoon for a four-day official visit to Malaysia.

Dr. Nujoma is scheduled to hold bilateral talks with Dr. Mahathir, during which they are expected to identify areas of cooperation that would further promote ties between Malaysia and Namibia.

Holds Discussions With Mahathir

BK1509095492 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0810 GMT 15 Sep 92

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Sept 15 (Malaysia-BERNAMA)—Malaysia is willing to consider suggestions put forward by Namibia to enhance bilateral ties between the two countries.

Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said Tuesday that Malaysia had pledged to extend help to Namibia in certain fields as soon as possible.

This was conveyed by Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed to Namibian President Dr. Sam Nujomo during two rounds of discussions at his office here, he told reporters after the meetings.

Abdullah said the proposals included providing training in the development planning, diplomatic, and military fields for Namibian officers under the Malaysian technical co-operation programme, and extending expertise in investment management to boost trade.

Namibia also asked Malaysia to set up a trade office there or in Harare, the capital of neighbouring Zimbabwe, to facilitate trade and speed up implementation of proposals by both countries, he added.

In this connection, Malaysian businessmen had been invited to visit Namibia to explore trade and business opportunities with a view to strengthening economic cooperation, he said.

Dr. Nujomo also asked Malaysia for expert assistance in port management and the eradication of malaria.

Concern Over Ship Carrying Plutonium Noted

BK1309144592 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in English 1330 GMT 13 Sep 92

[Text] Malaysia is always concerned about ships with dangerous cargo like plutonium plying its waterways like the Straits of Melacca. The foreign minister, Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, said this was because of the dire consequences on the environment and the residents in the area should an accident occur.

He was speaking to reporters after closing the second meeting of journalists from the Malay archipelago in Kuala Lumpur. He was asked to comment on a report that a Japanese ship, the (Akasuki Maru), which left Yokohama on the 24th of last month with a cargo of plutonium, had sailed through the Straits of Melacca on its return journey early this month. However, he said he had yet to receive any report or confirmation on the matter.

Earlier in his speech he stressed the need for journalists to upgrade the performance as disseminators of information and news by being more responsible to help the nation building.

Singapore

FPDA Exercises in South China Sea Reported

BK1409024292 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 12 Sep 92 p 3

[By Matthew Pereira aboard the RSS—Republic of Singapore Ship—Vigilance in the South China Sea]

[Text] Ships of the FPDA [Five-Power Defense Arrangements] nations practised their gunnery skills against low-flying fighters and bombers yesterday.

The sunset attack on Day Three out at sea stretched late into the night and tested the individual ships' skills as well as their ability to work with those of other navies in the face of an air threat.

The attack carried out in the calm waters of the South China Sea 100 km from Pulau Tioman [Tioman Island] was part of the anti-aircraft training for the ships in Phase One of Exercise Starfish 12/92.

The training included an earlier live-firing exercise in which ships fired their big guns at a torpedo-shaped luminous orange target towed by a Lear Jet.

This year's exercise is the 12th in the annual series involving the naval and air forces of the Five-Power Defence Arrangements (FPDA) countries—Australia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Singapore, and the United Kingdom.

The ships and crews have been on the go since the dramatic opening on Sept 9 when Skyhawks from the New Zealand and Singapore air forces swooped down on the ships and flew menacingly around them just 100 m above [the] sea level in a series of simulated air attacks.

But fighting aircraft was only one of two areas the ships were tested on. The other area was anti-submarine warfare (ASW) in which the combined forces had to hunt down the Australian submarine, HMAS [Her Majesty's Australian Ship] Ovens.

The coordinated hunt involved the British Sea King, Lynx, and Wasp helicopters the P3-Orion Maritime Patrol Aircraft and ships of the various nations, including the RSN's [Republic of Singapore's] corvettes.

The corvettes, the fastest ships in Exercise Starfish, are only in their third year of ASW, but were impressive nonetheless. An Australian ASW specialist, Lieutenant Ken Norton, an observer aboard the RSS Vigilance, said: "The ASW crew did well at applying the knowledge and procedures they have learned."

Lt. Norton, who also went aboard two other corvettes, noted that the RSN had made much progress in the short span of three years. "All the RSN men need now is experience," he added.

Phase One of Starfish is mainly for procedural training, said Lt. Col. Lim Ah Seng, the commanding officer of the Vigilance and commander, Task Group, of the RSN strike ships. "Many procedures have been worked out for this exercise. These few days of training at Phase One will allow the participants to familiarise themselves with these procedures."

Other drills covered include providing a defensive screen from the main body, over-the-horizon targeting, and communication procedures.

There are more drills for this phase, which ends tomorrow. They include moving through mined waters where Malaysian mine-hunters will clear a path. There will also be a naval shore bombardment.

The drills are also preparation for Phase Two, the application phase, which begins on Monday. The ships will be out for five days in the South China Sea.

Said Lt. Col. Lim: "This phase provides a good test for crews, especially those of small ships of endurance in conditions that are close to those in periods of tension and war."

Throughout Phase Two, ships will be attacked from the air, on the surface, and from below.

The RSN is the host of this year's exercise, which involves destroyers, frigates, missile corvettes, patrol craft, maritime patrol planes, fighters, and helicopters. The exercise ends on Sept 19.

Deputy Premier Views European Single Market

BK1409032492 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 12 Sep 92 p 19

[Text] Singapore can benefit from an enlarged European single market which is outward-looking and stronger economically, Deputy Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong has said.

However, as there are signs of growing protectionist tendencies in Europe because of the economic slowdown, the republic must be alert and always strive to stay competitive.

BG [Brigadier General] Lee told Singapore reporters yesterday that two advantages could come out of a single market in Western Europe:

In terms of trade dealings, Singapore would have three major partners—the United States, Japan, and Western Europe.

If not for Project 1992, the republic would have to deal with the European Community's individual members with their different trade rules and standards.

If a single market helps European companies do well, they are less likely to force their governments to put up protectionist barriers.

But the current economic slowdown and pressure from those companies which are not doing well may be changing the outward orientation of Europe governments.

He related his experiences of meeting European officials who had "espoused free trade" previously, but who now "have to take a more realistic view of the world."

"This is not a good sign," said BG Lee.

So what does this mean for Singapore? "We have to work harder because we are not going to get market access automatically. We're going to have to compete not only against other countries trying to get into the European market ... but we have to deal with the obstacles of getting into the market and across the border."

And there is "less margin for us to be complacent and to ignore our competitiveness position," said BG Lee, reinforcing Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong's message in his national day rally speech last month.

Defense Minister Yeo Returns From U.S. Visit

BK1409122892 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1100 GMT 14 Sep 92

[Text] The defense minister is confident that U.S. will continue to be based in this part of the world regardless of the outcome of its presidential and congressional elections. Dr. Yeo Ning Hong said this after returning from his successful visit to the U.S. He said the continued American interest in the Asia-Pacific region will (?contribute) to the economic growth here.

Government Balances Environment, Economic Demands

BK1209045792 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 10 Sep 92 p 16

[By Eileen Lau]

[Text] Singapore is Number One in environmental management in South-east Asia.

An environmental report on 12 Asian countries released yesterday said the Singapore Government was more successful than most in balancing the often conflicting demands of environmental protection and economic development.

But the report said the challenge now was to "win the hearts and minds" of Singaporeans, who are still apathetic to "green" issues.

The 400 page report, entitled Asia/Pacific and the Environment: Investing in the Future, was also released yesterday in the other 11 countries—Malaysia Indonesia, Thailand, the Philippines, Australia, India, Japan, Hong Kong, South Korea, Taiwan and China.

The US$80,000 (S$126,400) study was conducted by Business International, the research arm of The Economist, based on interviews with over 200 business leaders, government officials, academicians and representatives from other organisations in the countries surveyed.

Commissioned by corporate giant Du Pont and public relations firm Burson-Marsteller, it identified challenges facing each country and suggested initiatives to tackle them.

Costing US$500 a copy, it is aimed at stimulating discussion among business, government and the public on environmental issues.

The chapter on Singapore said: "It does not have Hong Kong's filthy harbour, the rubbish strewn streets of Manila, or the traffic jams of Bangkok." It added that it had been easier for Singapore to implement anti-pollution policies and stricter controls over its industry because the authorities had strong political support from the beginning.

Its small size and absence of large areas of rainforests and mineral resources that needed protection have also helped. The report praised Singapore's Green Plan, an environmental blueprint intended to turn the country into a "model green city" by the year 2000.

But it pointed out that littering, hazardous waste management and competition for scarce land were areas that needed attention.

Burson-Marsteller managing director Paul Walker said that public interest in environmental issues was low because Singaporeans still had "the mentality that someone else namely the Government, will take care of it for them."

The report also said littering was still a problem despite steep fines and public education. Also, recycling efforts have not met with much success.

Cambodia

Sihanouk's 11-12 Sep Visit to Pailin Reported

BK1509012492 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 14 Sep 92

[Text] On 11 and 12 September 1992, His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC], and his wife paid a visit to Pailin.

The prince and his wife arrived in Pailin at 1030 on the morning of 11 September. His Excellency [H.E.] Son Sen, member of the SNC and deputy head of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK], and a number of PDK cadres welcomed the prince and his wife at the airport.

After the prince descended from the helicopter, he was very warmly welcomed by the National Army of Democratic border, 939 from Indonesia, 175 from Malaysia, 23 from Australia, and one from Singapore.

About 6,000 displaced persons have returned to their hometowns located in the zones controlled by the other Cambodian faction, according to Mr. Akashi, head of UNTAC (UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia). These repatriations have been organized by the UNHCR (UN Office of High Commissioner for Refugees).

Liberal Democratic Party Congress Opens 12 Sep

BK1209074292 Hong Kong AFP in English 0729 GMT 12 Sep 92

[Text] Phnom Penh, Sept 12 (AFP)—General Sak Sutsakhan, who broke away from former Prime Minister Son Sann's resistance faction to lead his own army, opened his political party's congress in the Cambodian capital Saturday.

General Sak was to resign as president of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and then be re-elected by party delegates during the two-day meeting at the city's Olympic Stadium, according to the program.

"The LDP is the new solution for the Khmer people and Cambodia," the general told the sedate crowd of 900 delegates.

"We believe that the LDP will reconcile with all Cambodians nationwide, regardless of their political ambitions to reunite and to rebuild Cambodia together," he said.

The indoor stadium, its rafters filled with shrieking bats, carried banners that struck out mildly at the Phnom Penh regime, which the LDP will attempt to oppose in U.N.-run elections in May 1993.

The banners read: "The people are sovereign, the leaders their servants," and "LDP—Catalyst for change."

The party, whose symbol is a white elephant inside a red and blue circle, claims membership of 1,118 cadres, only 60 of whom are women, according to party literature handed out at the congress.

It claims much of its support from Cambodian refugees who have settled in the United States and France, and from refugees still in camps along the border with Thailand.

Son Sann Ends First Propaganda Training Course

BK1409113992 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 14 Sep 92

[Text] On 29 August at 0845, His Excellency [H.E.] Son Sann, chairman of the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party [BLDP], or Granddad Son Sann's party, chairman of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF], and member of the Cambodian Supreme National Council presided over the ceremony to close the first propaganda training course. On the occasion Son Sann placed his hope and trust in those attending the course and called on them to pay attention to their tasks in performing their duty.

The closing of the first propaganda training course was also attended by H.E. Son Soubert, general secretary of the BLDP; General Chum Phuong, BLDP deputy general secretary; Sar Sa-at, deputy chief of the BLDP's Education Department; General Thach Reng, chief of the BLDP's Political Department; General Koet Ret, chairman of the committee in charge of discipline; Pol Ham, deputy chief of the BLDP's Political Department and chief of the KPNLF's Information Ministry; and a number of high-ranking colleagues.

On this occasion H.E. Son Sann told cadres to carefully study and strive to carry out their work by closely cooperating with UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia]. He also called on cadres to be humble and polite. This is one way toward national reconciliation. H.E. Son Sann also stressed that if his party won in the election, he would not leave out those Cambodians with knowledge and moral conduct in serving and building the nation because Cambodians need national reconciliation and unity for our nation's peace and our country's prosperity.

There are 32 students attending this propaganda training course. They have received training in 13 subjects for a month. On Monday 31 August H.E. Son Sann opened an election law course for 100 BLDP members in Phnom Penh. These are BLDP members from all provinces in Cambodia. UNTAC representatives were also due to take part in this course.

Hun Sen Confers Diplomas on Engineering Students

BK1409060792 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 13 Sep 92

[Text] The Education Ministry of the State of Cambodia [SOC] held a ceremony on the morning of 12 September 1992 in Phnom Penh to confer diplomas on 146 engineering students who have graduated from the Cambodian-Russian Institute of Technology after five years successful study.

The ceremony was presided over by His Excellency [H.E.] Hun Sen, vice chairman of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] Central Committee and chairman of the SOC Council of Ministers; Prince Norodom Chakkrapong, member of the Standing Committee of the CPP Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Nguon Nhel, member of the Standing Committee of the CPP Central Committee and agriculture minister; Sim Ka, member of the Standing Committee of the CPP Central Committee and chairman of the Phnom Penh Municipal Party Committee and People's Committee; and many other members of the CPP Central Committee, such as Nhim Vanda, trade minister; Im Chhunlim, education minister; Chan Phin, industry minister; and So Khun, communications, transport, and posts minister.

(Om Iengsara), deputy director of the institute, said that this was the 7th conferment of the engineering diploma since the opening of the institute in 1981. Currently, there are 745 specialized engineers currently working in various ministries, offices, provinces, and cities, and many other middle-level specialized workers.

Speaking on that occasion, H.E. Hun Sen highly commended the students for their hard study and for achieving the engineering diploma, adding that this was another success in the education and training fields achieved at a time when our country was in a most difficult political and economic situation.

H.E. Hun Sen also noted that it was not easy for us to open many educational establishments, universities, and technical institutions from scratch because of the destruction by the criminal Pol Pot clique. Thus, the aforementioned was a great honor for the entire Cambodian nation.

H.E. Hun Sen also urged all students to effectively use their knowledge and try their best in their research and actual practice so as to contribute to our national reconstruction.

Hor Namhong Thanked in SRV Counterpart Message

BK1409113792 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 13 Sep 92

[Text] His Excellency [H.E.] Hor Namhong, minister of foreign affairs of the State of Cambodia, recently received a return message from H.E. Nguyen Manh Cam, foreign minister of the SRV. The message says, among other things: I would like to sincerely thank you for your best wishes on the 47th anniversary of the August revolution and the 2 September National Day of the SRV.

May the bonds of solidarity, friendship, and cooperation between Vietnam and Cambodia grow stronger and become more consolidated. I wish you the best of health and great successes in your glorious mission.

Ministry Reports French Cultural Assistance

BK1509075992 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0400 GMT 15 Sep 92

[Text] Phnom Penh 15 Sep (SPK)—The French Government has pledged to help the teaching of the French language in all of Cambodia's secondary schools, according to the Ministry of Education. France will also help work out new curricula for the School of Law, the National Administration School, the University of Phnom Penh, and the Higher Technical Institute and will provide professors.

France also plans to help the Kompong Cham Technical School, to open a French school in Phnom Penh, and to give scholarships to five primary education inspectors.

For the 1992-93 school year, the French Government will spend 14,579,000 francs on the secondary and higher education sectors in Cambodia. In addition, various French non-governmental organizations and associations have accorded aid to Cambodia.

The University Association for the Instruction of the French Language has thus helped the University of Phnom Penh (UPP) set up a library of exact sciences and natural sciences and will send professors to preparatory classses at all faculties.

The UPP has also received from the "Danielle Mitterrand Foundation" teaching documents and laboratory equipment, and four of its instructors are undergoing post-graduate studies in France.

The year 1987 was the beginning of the growing cooperation between the French Cultural Center and the Ministry of Education, with aid for the training and retraining of French speakers, for the writing of a French-Cambodian glossary, and for the training of 14 teacher-advisers.

The "Children in Cambodia" organization has sent its specialists to help provide preschool teaching technique since 1991, and has opened seminars for those responsible for maternal service.

SIPAR (Privately Initiated Support for Aid to Reconstruction) has cooperated with the Ministry of Education in training teachers and delivered aid to the teachers' schools of Kompong Speu, Kompong Chhnang, and Prey Veng and to the University of Phnom Penh.

The French League of Education has also cooperated with the ministry in the project of a vocational school in Siem Reap Province and has done its best to help Cambodia join the International League of Education.

Moreover, an agreement between the ministry and the "Cambodian Welcome" organization was signed for the exchanges of visits between the youths of Cambodia and France.

Indonesia

Portuguese Group's Request for Talks Approved

BK1209125592 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 12 Sep 92

[Text] The Government of Indonesia has granted the request by the Portuguese parliamentary delegation, which is consequently a part of the European parliament, to participate in talks with the Indonesian parliament scheduled to be held on 20 September in Jakarta. Director General of Politics of the Foreign Ministry, Wiryono Sastrohandoyo, said in Jakarta today that Indonesia would hold an attitude of openness, and Portugal, as an integral part of the European parliament, could visit the Indonesian parliament, DPR [People's Consultative Council]. According to Wiryono, Indonesia will not reciprocate Portugal's unilateral actions, which it has repeatedly practised while successfully thwarting attempts to hold a dialogue with Indonesia.

Touching on UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali's call to reactivate a tripartite dialogue between Indonesia, Portugal, and the UN on settling the East Timor issue, Wiryono clarified that the framework for solving the issue had already been in existence, from 1983. Indonesia is always prepared to hold a dialogue, but Portugal has strongly insisted that there should be representatives from East Timor in any dialogue.

Territorial Operation in East Timor To Continue

BK1509011092 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 15 Sep 92

[Text] General Try Sutrisno, commander of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Indonesia [ABRI], says that the first and second integrated territorial operations in East Timor, which will end on 30 September, will be continued. Speaking at a working meeting with House Commission I [in charge of politics, security, and information] in Jakarta yesterday, the Armed Forces commander said that the ABRI leadership had decided to start the third integrated territorial operation on 1 October 1992. Its targets include the enhancement of national consciousness among the younger generation on the basis of Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution and the construction of infrastructures and facilities.

Jakarta Not Surprised at CSFR Spy Report

BK1109122292 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 28 Aug 92 p 8

[Excerpts] Jakarta (JP)—News of the involvement of Indonesian nationalities in espionage in Czechoslovakia was not a surprise to the government, a minister said here yesterday.

Coordinating Minister for Political Affairs and Security Sudomo said that the government had been informed about this long before the news publication.

"The government had long before known that a number of Indonesian citizens had been sent to study abroad and make them cadres of the defunct communist party (PKI)," Sudomo said after attending a meeting held in connection with the 10th Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) summit at the Jakarta Convention Center yesterday. [passage omitted].

Sudomo said all Indonesians, who were involved in the case and had returned home, had been investigated. "Therefore, there is nothing to worry about." He added that those who were still abroad would also be examined upon their return home.

According to Sudomo, the Indonesian Government had always kept an eye on the activities of all former members of the banned party who were staying abroad and on those who had returned here.

Many members of the out-lawed PKI party fled to other countries after the party's aborted coup in 1965.

Sudomo also stated yesterday that the government had never granted amnesty to former members of the Indonesian Communist Party.

He said all formers members of the party had been tried according to the existing law and many of them had already completed their sentence.

UN Urged To Determine Status of Yugoslavia

BK1409065192 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 14 Sep 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Ali Alatas has made it clear that the United Nations should immediately determine the status of Yugoslavia. Ali Alatas disclosed the matter in reply to questions by newsmen in Jakarta in conjunction with the convening of the UN General Assembly soon and the presence of President Suharto in the forum as a representative of the Nonaligned Movement [NAM].

Earlier, Minister Ali Alatas and Japanese Ambassador to Indonesia Michiko Kunihiro signed a diplomatic note on the granting of a Japanese soft loan amounting to $1.2 billion to Indonesia.

Speaking to newsmen, Ali Alatas said further that the UN General Assembly and Security Council should not delay discussions on the status of Yugoslavia.

On Indonesia and the NAM, the foreign affairs minister said that the status of Yugoslavia would be discussed at the NAM foreign ministerial meeting in New York by the end of this month. He said that Indonesia and the NAM would be wise by taking into account the prevailing developments and adhering to the UN decision.

President Suharto is scheduled to deliver his speech before the UN General Assembly session on 24 September 1992. He will be the first speaker on that day. Alatas said that the president would, among other things, explain the NAM's position on various international problems.

Laos

More Refugees Repatriated From Southern China

BK0309035692 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Text] On 31 August, some 311 more Lao refugees of 70 families were repatriated from southern China on a voluntary basis. This was the seventh batch of the Lao refugees who have been repatriated from China so far. The official hand-over ceremony was held by officials concerned of both Lao and Chinese sides in the presence of officials of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees.

Since July 1991, a total of 1,617 out of more than 4,000 Lao refugees residing in southern China have voluntarily returned to their native villages.

Party Control Board Delegates Return From SRV

BK1209074892 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 11 Sep 92

[Text] A delegation of the Control and Inspection Board of the party Central Committee led by Comrade Dr. Davon Vongsak, vice chairman of the board, ended a 14-day visit to the SRV and returned to Vientiane on the afternoon of 10 September.

During the visit, Comrade Dr. Davon Vongsak and his delegation exchanged experiences with the Vietnamese side on the party and state control work. The two sides exchanged views in depth on the suppression and prevention of corruption and on the cadre training work on both short-term and long-term bases. They also discussed other significant issues which are related to the control work.

In addition, the delegation of our party Central Committee's Control and Inspection Board visited many economic and cultural establishments of the SRV. It was warmly welcomed by Vietnamese cadres and people at all establishments it visited.

Phoun Sipaseut Receives Mongolian Greetings

BK1309045292 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 12 Sep 92

["Text" of congratulatory message sent from Tserenpiliyn Gombosuren, foreign minister of Mongolia, to Phoun Sipaseut, deputy prime minister and foreign minister Laos, on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the establishment of Lao-Mongolian diplomatic relations—dated 11 September 1992]

[Text] On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Mongolia and the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], on behalf of the Mongolian Government and in my own name, I would like to extend warm and sincere congratulations to His Excellency.

Since the establishment of diplomatic relations between our two countries, Mongolia and Laos, 30 years ago, friendship and cooperation, which we all have highly evaluated, continuously have developed. I, therefore, would like to take this opportunity to assure you that the relations of friendship between our two countries will be further consolidated and constantly developed in the interests of both the Mongolian and Lao peoples, as well as for the development of friendship and cooperation in the international community.

On this occasion, I wish His Excellency good health and happiness and all the Lao people a progress and prosperity.

30th Anniversary of Ties With Hungary Greeted

BK1309025692 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 13 Sep 92

[Text] His Excellency [H.E.] Phoun Sipaseut, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, has sent a congratulatory message to H.E. Geza Jeszenszky, minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Hungary, in Budapest, to mark the 30th anniversary of the establishment of Lao-Hungarian diplomatic relations—12 September.

H.E. Phoun Sipaseut expressed his sincere congratulations to the Hungarian foreign affairs minister and his confidence that the long-existing relations of friendship between the two countries, Laos and Hungary, and their governments will further develop consistently, for the mutual interests of the two peoples, as well as for international peace, stability, and cooperation.

Champassak Trade Union Conference Held 9-11 Sep

BK1509104092 Vientiane KPL in English 0909 GMT 15 Sep 92

[Text] Vientiane, Sept 15 (KPL)—The Champassak branch of the Lao Federation of Trade Unions (LFTU) opened between September 9-11, 1992 its conference aiming to elect its new executive committee and select full representatives to attend the forthcoming third LFTU Congress.

The Champassak LFTU conference was attended by Southon Thepasa, advisor to the provincial trade union executive committee; Onneua Phimmachan, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, acting secretary of the provincial party committee and governor of Champassak; Bounthan Souvannasouk, LFTU president; representatives of mass organizations, of districts, and of production bases in the province totalling 1,014.

The participants heard a political report on its operation over the past period and endorsed an action plan for the coming years. The conference elected a new 173-member executive committee of the provincial trade union.

Philippines

Navarro Says NAFTA Threatens Exports, Jobs

HK1509050792 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 15 Sep 92 p 1

[By Lorelie de Belen and Johanna Son]

[Text] The sword of Damocles continues to hang over the country's principal exports and a lot of jobs could be lost with the implementation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (Nafta).

Trade and Industry Secretary Rizalino Navarro said yesterday that the Nafta agreement threatens the Philippines' principal exports to the U.S.—garments, sugar, coconut oil, electronics and semiconductors, processed food, gifts, fashion accessories and other non-traditional manufacturers. Together, these top exports to the U.S. earned for the country $1.5 billion last year.

Last year, Philippine exports to the U.S. reached $3.143 billion, up minimally by 1.6% from the previous year's $3.094 billion.

Imports from the U.S. rose 2.6%, from $2.365 billion to $2.426 billion, reducing the Philippines' trade surplus by 1.6%, from $729 million to $717 million.

The quoted exports are labor-intensive and their undercutting could mean thousands of jobs lost for the country.

With Nafta in place, Navarro and most of Asia's other trade ministers fear that the North American trade bloc may induce the U.S. to cut privileges under general system of preferences [GSP] whereby selected countries are accorded zero or minimal customs duties. Also, for practical reasons, the U.S. could start sourcing more from its Nafta allies—Canada and Mexico—rather than from Asia due to geographical distance, among other considerations.

Navarro, who told the 15 ministers at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) meeting in Bangkok recently of Nafta's possible ill effects, said the Philippines would insist on maintaining its export quotas and GSP preferences. The GSP, he said, is subject to ongoing review. Its withdrawal could mean the further weakening of Philippine exports' competitiveness.

The Asian officials' apprehension came despite the U.S.' repeated assurances that Nafta would not remove the GSP and that those countries currently enjoying GSP benefits (which puts tariffs at a maximum of 3.5%) would continue to get them. The GSP allows products to enter the U.S. with lower duties.

The Philippines joined the other delegations in batting for the success of the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt).

The Apec ministers have for the third straight year issued their strongly-worded commitment to the conclusion of the Gatt. The ministers also issued a separate statement in Bangkok on the Uruguay Round.

U.S. and Canadian delegates to the Apec meeting said Nafta, wasn't an alternative to Gatt and wouldn't hinder a liberalized global trade.

The ministers, however, remained skeptical that Nafta wouldn't adversely affect them.

Earlier, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Sandra Kristoff said the U.S. would maintain U.S. tariff level of 3.5% on products coming from Asia.

She said products entering the U.S. duty-free under GSP will continue to get it. For now, U.S. officials said they're not planning to change the Philippines' quota system. Eventually, however, they would opt for free competition, she added.

The Philippines and 14 other Asia-Pacific rim countries have, as a group, protested the Nafta as they perceived it to be a form [of] protectionism. They also expressed skepticism about its incompatibility with the Gatt.

The 15 participating trade ministers were anxious that the unpublished text of the Nafta contained provisions that might divert investments from Asia to Mexico and confine trade among the three Nafta signatories—the U.S., Canada and Mexico.

Navarro said the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) plans to conduct an in-depth assessment of Nafta's impact on the country.

The problem is further complicated by the upcoming U.S. presidential election this November.

Sources said that if President Bush is re-elected, Nafta is safely assumed to be approved and would be implemented immediately. If it's Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton, Nafta would have to be renegotiated and it would be difficult to tell if he would feel obliged to go on with the project.

Clemencio Montesa, Philippine ambassador to Toronto, Canada, [name of city as published] said the Nafta agreement is bound to be approved anyway by the legislative bodies of the three countries.

Instead of debating on Nafta's effect, however, Montesa said the country's industry and export sectors should start gearing for competition.

Manila Wants Exports Assurances After NAFTA

HK1509055092 Quezon City MALAYA in English 15 Sep 92 p 9

[By Carlito Pablo]

[Text] The Philippines and other ASEAN nations demanded assurance that their principal exports to North America will not be adversely affected by the implementation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

At the recently concluded ministerial meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation [APEC] in Bangkok, the Philippine delegation led by Foreign Affairs Secretary Roberto Romulo and Trade Secretary Rizalino Navarro demanded protection for the country's principal exports to the United States.

These products include garments, sugar, coconut oil, electronics and semi-conductors, processed food, gifts, fashion accessories and other non-traditional manufacturers to the U.S. which comprise a significant portion of the country's $3-billion exports.

The American and Canadian delegations assured other APEC members that NAFTA would not have trade and investment diverting effects. "Despite such assurances, the Philippines and other countries remain skeptical that they will not be adversely affected by NAFTA," according to a statement sent by the Philippine delegation from Bangkok at the end of the meeting over the weekend.

The delegation also reported that APEC accepted the bid of the Philippines to host the eighth ministerial conference of the organization in 1996.

Chinese Ambassador Outlines Foreign Policy

HK1409032492 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 14 Sep 92 p 16

[Text] Huang Gui Fang, People's Republic of China (PROC) envoy to Manila, over the weekend outlined the foreign policy of China on the occasion of Filipino-Chinese Friendship Night, sponsored by the Quezon City Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Inc.

Mr. Huang said PROC will decide on some changes pertaining to its policies and attitudes. China will also not seek to advance communism because it "hates power politics," he said.

The third area of foreign policy pertains to peace. Mr. Huang said China will give up relations with nations which do not have a peaceful treaty. [sentence as published]

Fourth, it will seek to strengthen solidarity relations with other developing countries, said Mr. Huang.

Finally, China will establish international economic order with other countries without interfering with the internal affairs of those countries.

Mr. Huang said China does not intend to encroach on the "sovereignty of any country in [as published] any pretext." He said the intent is to supply each other's needs on the basis of equality.

Dumancas Wants Asian Defense Partnership Formed

HK1409114292 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 13 Sep 92

[Text] Philippine Navy Chief Mariano Dumancas has supported Agusan del Sur Congresswoman Charito Plaza's bill to form a defense partnership between the Philippines and neighboring Asian nations.

Dumancas said he has held informal talks with navy chiefs from Indonesia and Malaysia regarding the proposed accord. He added that a formal conference between the countries' foreign affairs department secretaries is needed in order to realize the agreement.

Congresswoman Plaza stressed an Asian defense partnership must be formed because the Philippines has no extensive preparation against foreign invasion.

Officials Reject Export Stabilization Fund

HK1409041492 Quezon City MALAYA in English 12 Sep 92 p 9

[By Cherry Velarde]

[Text] Finance Secretary Ramon del Rosario, Jr., and Central Bank governor Jose L. Cuisia, Jr., yesterday rejected the creation of an Export Stabilization Fund.

Del Rosario said that the fund will be against the government's free market policy. Cuisia added that the fund will be another form of subsidy the government cannot afford.

Meanwhile, Cebu export leaders assured President Ramos they will put off their march and other protest actions against the government now that the peso is depreciating in value, but insisted that Malacanang put up an Export Stabilization Fund as safety net.

"Operationally, we cannot do it. It runs also against our policy of letting the market determine the exchange rates and most importantly it raises the question of whether the government should continue to subsidize losses of the private sector," Cuisia told Palace reporters after a meeting with exporters at Malacanang.

Del Rosario added that the government is even planning on junking the Oil Price Stabilization Fund (OPSF) when the deregulation of the oil industry goes in full blast by October.

"I would not be in favor of the proposal that the government put up the fund because it is contrary to the principle of a free market-oriented economy... I would have no problem if the exporters put up the fund," he suggested.

Cuisia said the peso exchange rate has dropped to P22.95 [Philippine pesos] to a dollar two weeks ago from P26.67 at the start of the year but then rebounded to P25.461 as of yesterday resulting in only a net appreciation of three percent.

But exporters insisted that even with a peso exchange rate of P26 their profit margin will be as low as three percent and that during the crisis two weeks ago some have lost beyond 10 percent of their profit.

"The export industry in Cebu is in a very bad shape," said Benson Dakay, president of Philexport Cebu in a statement signed by five other export leaders.

They said the performance of Cebu exports for the first semester of the year showed negative growth both in volume and value at 12 percent, but considering the dollar export value it could reach as high as 16 percent.

They said 216 companies have closed down while 1,055 others temporarily stopped operating resulting in the lay off of 10,000 workers.

"How can we therefore service this artifically strong peso? Not an inch, at P26 to P27 to a dollar," they insisted. But after their meeting with the President, the exporters believe they can recover their losses.

Presidential spokesperson Annabelle Abaya said the President has assured the exporters that the crisis is only temporary and that the government will do its best to help them through reduced interest on loans.

"We think the President is sympathetic to us. Masaya na kami [we are happy]. We have suspended our plans to march," said Dakay.

Now that the peso is rebounding, Dakay said their businesses are on their way to breaking even.

"But it is still a problem (the strong peso) because what we need is long-term cheap money for capital expenditures and we would like foreign loans to be liberalized.

Revenue Shortfall Causes Control of Spending

HK1509040092 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 15 Sep 92 p 1

[Text] The national government had tightened its expenditures during the first seven months of the year due to shortfall in the revenue collections by its two top income generating bureaus.

Department of Finance statistics showed that total revenues from January to July this year amounted to only P144.53 billion [Philippine pesos], reflecting a revenue shortfall of P7.10 billion, compared to the programmed level of P151.63 billion.

With a low revenue collection, the national government slowed down its spending by as much as P6.05 billion to only P143.28 as of end July from P149.33 billion in the same period last year.

Comparing the revenue performance against the total expenses of the national government, an artificial budgetary surplus was posted amounting to P1.25 billion. Despite this artificial surplus, it was still P1.05 billion short of the P2.30 billion programed surplus under the Economic Stabilization Program sponsored by the International Monetary Fund.

Both the internal revenue and customs bureaus recorded a decline in its collections amounting to only P81.95 billion and P42.32 billion, respectively.

The continued appreciation of the Philippine currency against the U.S. dollar has taken its toll on the performance of the BIR [Bureau of Internal Revenue] since fiscal managers inputted a foreign exchange rate of P30 to a dollar in projecting its collections early this year. For the first seven months of 1992 BIR's revenue shortfall amounted to P90.0 million from the programed level of P82.04 billion while BOC [Bureau of Customs] collections dropped by a hefty P3.25 billion against the projected level of P45.57 billion.

Ramos Declares State of Calamity in 3 Provinces

HK1109133992 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 11 Sep 92

[Text] President Fidel V. Ramos today issued Proclamation No. 41 formally declaring a state of public calamity in the provinces of Pangasinan, La Union, Nueva Vizcaya, and the cities of Baguio, Dagupan and Olongapo.

These places have suffered serious damage caused by tropical depressions Gloring and Juaning and tropical storm Ising. The president ordered all government agencies to start relief and rehabilitation work in these areas according to existing operational plans.

The president also issued Proclamation No. 40 setting aside a tract of land in Castillejos, Zambales as a reservation for the resettlement of Mount Pinatubo victims.

The proclamation amends Proclamation No. 1933, dated December 19, 1979, which set up the BLISS [New Society Improvement of Sites and Services] Reservation in the area.

Presidential spokesperson Annabelle Abaya said the area extends over 7,363,801 square meters.

Program Launched for 16 'Poorest' Provinces

HK1509070492 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1100 GMT 15 Sep 92

[Text] The Presidential Commission on Rural Development started countryside consultations today, in line with the development of the country's 16 poorest provinces. Commission Chairman Daniel Lacson said the 16 provinces were selected by President Ramos as priority areas to which development aid will be sent by the central government.

Among the areas listed were Romblon, Southern Leyte, Samar, Tawi Tawi, Basilan, Agusan del Sur, Antique, Guimaras, Surigao del Sur, Ifugao, Kalinga Apayao and Batanes.

Lacson stressed that government aid does not mean handouts.

[Begin Lacson recording in English] We don't dole out the usual Santa Claus fare. You are going to sit down with us. You, the selected leaders, are going to look at your province and say: What do I have; and from what you have, what can I do about it? And then, when I cannot afford it, can you take care of that, international government? [end recording]

Ramos Reappoints Amante as Executive Secretary

HK1509020892 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT 14 Sep 92

[Text] President Ramos confirmed that Congressman Edelmiro Amante has resigned from Congress. The president confirmed this during his regular weekly news conference today at Malacanang, saying that Amante has formally sent his resignation letter to the lower house.

The president also reappointed Amante as his executive secretary. However, the president failed to mention the reason for Amante's sudden resignation from the lower house. It can be recalled that Amante said earlier that he would not resign from the lower house unless the Commission on Appointments confirmed his appointment.

Operations Conducted Against Suspected Killers

HK1509032292 Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 29 Aug 92 pp 1, 9

[By Rey Remegio]

[Text] Gen. Santos City—The massive combing operations by the elite Airborne unit of the Phil [Philippine] Army continued today in Alabel, South Cotabato against communist dissidents who killed and tortured seven members of the military in an ambush last Tuesday, authorities said.

Officials of the 601st Infantry Brigade said several troopers are operating at the whole area of Barangay Salimama in Alabel to mop out the rebel group allegedly led by a certain Kumander Lahi believed responsible in the August 25 ambush.

Killed during the attack were Airborne unit troopers Sgt. Eduardo Balanza, Pfc. [Private first class] Jerome Bulao, Pfc. Armando Samson and CAFGU [Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit] members Alberto Baron, Jemelito Castillo, Santiago Abendan and Noli Cumalig.

Relatives of the slain soldiers, meanwhile, claimed the victims were also tortured. They said one of the victims showed stab wounds while another was found with his sex organ cut.

Reports said the Airborne-led patrol contingent was ambushed by the group of Kumander [Commander] Lahi after the troopers emerged from a creek 3:00 p.m. Tuesday at Sitio Salimama, Barangay Datal in Alabel. The troopers were led by Lt. Cesar Metijo and Lt. Benjamin Clavite. The initial burst immediately killed all the four CAFGU members and the two soldiers. Sgt. Balanza sustained a wound but died hours later.

A heated exchange then ensued until reinforcements from the Airborne station came the following day. At this point, the soldiers have already lost an M-203 rifle, an M-16, 3 M-14 rifles and 2 grenades.

Kumander Lahi and his men started to withdraw the following day but were pursued by the military until today.

Anti-NPA Operation Launched in Davao del Sur

HK1509033392 Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 3 Sep 92 p 1

[By Bert Renejane]

[Text] Sta. Cruz, Davao del Sur—About 8 troopers and undetermined number of dissidents of the New People's Army [NPA] were killed during a series of massive, week-long operations by a composite battalion of the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] to flush out the rebels in Mt. Apo.

The 18 troopers who were killed including the NPAs were not disclosed to the media as the army led by BGen. [Brigadier General] Danilo Olay is keeping the dead under wraps.

The heaviest casualty of the army occurred at barangay Binaton, Sta. Cruz, where a big group of NPAs waylaid and ambushed the soldiers while they were conducting mopping operations after helicopter gunships bombed the area of suspected NPA hideouts.

The bloody encounter occurred some 4 kilometers away from Sta. Cruz for several hours causing traffic in the national highway to be stopped by soldiers in order to avoid motorists and passengers from getting caught by bullets in the crossfire.

The massive operations and bombings against the NPAs based in Mt. Apo particularly the Davao del Sur side was allegedly requested by Gov [Governor] Roger Llanos.

The composite IB [Infantry Battalion] operating in Mt. Apo are that of the 7th IB, the 46th IB and the 37th IB.

Sta. Cruz vice-mayor Joel Lopez, who saw the dead and the wounded, said that the casualty on the government troopers was heavy. But, he added, scores in the NPA side were also killed.

The NPAs operating in Mt. Apo were led by Commander Benjamin Benzar alias Ben Sarabia, Commander Amado Payot, Commanders Parago and Bibit, all of the Davao del Sur, Davao del Norte and Davao Oriental NPA commands.

The NPA commands were believed holding a summit meeting in Mt Apo when the army took advantage of the situation to launch a massive attack.

The troopers also overran an NPA training camp but before they captured the camp, the area was laden with landmines which killed scores of troopers when they stepped on it.

A massive evacuation of villagers was also participated by the week-long fighting between the army and the NPAs. The villagers evacuated to barangays that were not affected by the fighting.

As of this writing the operations are still going on in the area with the NPAs already on the run. The NPA retreat, however, was believed only a tactical strategy and that they might regroup again in Mt. Apo once the army will return to their camps in the lowland. [sentence as published] As of now, the highways of Sta. Cruz are full of heavily armed soldiers preparing for a gunbattle in the lowland against fleeing NPAs.

It was not known how much the army spent in this week's operations against the NPAs.

Nine Suspected Communist Leaders Seek Release

HK1409054192 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 13 Sep 92 p 13

[Text] Davao City—Nine suspected communist leaders detained here since Aug. 24 urged government to drop subversion charges filed against them following the release late Tuesday of 16 non-governmental organization workers the military said were ranking members of the underground movement in Mindanao.

The Task Force Detainees [TFD] also called for the immediate release of the detainees and four children aged six months to 5 years, who are detained along with their parents, for humanitarian reasons. "In the absence of solid evidence beyond reasonable doubt which shall justify their incarceration these people must be set free," the TFD statement said.

In a separate statement released to media here, detainees Arsenio Ladao Jr., his wife Emilia and Nelson Manigo, demanded that the charges filed against all of them be dropped. The nine were arrested in a series of raids conducted on six suspected Communist Party safe houses and a printing press here.

Regional Director Manuel Salimbangon of the National Police said the nine were members of the CPP [Communist Party of the Philippines] Mindanao Commission. Of the nine, Flor del Rosario, Mahleon Pugna and Shane Dolor have been released.

Government 'Cannot Always' Meet Rebels' Demands

HK1509060092 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0400 GMT 15 Sep 92

[Text] Even the government has its limitations with regard to its peace negotiation with the leaders of the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP].

Defense Secretary Renato De Villa said the government cannot always yield to all the demands of CPP Chairman Jose Maria Sison. He made this statement in response to the National Democratic Front's insistence to hold the peace talks abroad. He said that if Sison and Jalandoni refuse to return to the country, then the National Unification Council will have to talk to local communist leaders.

[Begin De Villa recording in English] If they don't want [to have the talks in the country], Father Jalandoni, Joma [Sison] and the rest of them do not want to come here [words indistinct], then the government will have no choice but to talk to whoever is available here in the country, who would like to explore the idea of peace. [end recording]

The defense secretary added that there are a number of local Communist Party leaders who are willing to talk peace with the government.

With regard to the military rebels, De Villa said that he has already issued two to three safe-conduct passes to military rebel officials; however, he declined from naming them.

Court Postpones Hearings Against 48 Rebels

HK1009031592 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 9 Sep 92

[Text] A military court postponed hearings on rebellion charges against 48 rebel soldiers, including Air Force Lieutenant Eduardo Red Capunan. The General Court Martial Number 10 has decided to postpone the hearings pending the guidelines of the government's amnesty program.

Capunan and his colleagues are charged with involvement in seven coup attempts against the Aquino administration.

Brigadier General Arnulfo Acider, head of the military court, said that it would be a waste of time if they came out with a decision contrary to the government's amnesty program.

Ramos Supports Safe Conduct for Rebel Honasan

HK1509061292 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 14 Sep 92

[Text] President Fidel V. Ramos has supported the idea of granting a safe conduct pass for former Colonel Gregorio Honasan, leader of the Reform the Armed Forces Movement. The president said if such a move may help in the peace process, there is no reason for denying Honasan the safe conduct pass.

National Security Adviser Jose Almonte had said previously that the government must not neglect Honasan in its peace talks with rebel soldiers. According to Almonte, Honasan still has a strong influence over rebel militiamen, and he believes the rebel soldier can greatly help in the peace effort.

Miltary, Muslims 'Willing' To Discuss Peace

HK1509121292 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT 15 Sep 92

[Text] The Young Officers Union [YOU] is allegedly willing to hold dialogues with military leaders to quash the rebellion within the military.

A YOU member said they are closely monitoring the present administration's amnesty program and are willing to make recommendations for military and socioeconomic reforms. He added that the Ramos administration's call for peace talks with both rightist and leftist rebels is a timely move in the direction of national peace.

In related news, Muslim rebels in Mindanao are also willing to participate in the peace talks. This was according to Lanao del Norte Congressman Mariano Badelles. Badelles said he spoke to one of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front's [MILF] leaders, who expressed confidence in the government's national reconciliation program. The MILF leader even suggested that Magat Salamat and Nur Misuari, MILF and Moro National Liberation Front chairmen respectively, be included in the peace talks.

Muslim Group Threatens More Power Lines Bombs

HK1409052592 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 13 Sep 92 p 13

[Text] Cagayan de Oro City—A shadowy group calling itself "Mubarak III" or "Palestinian Guerillas" has threatened to bomb key power installations of the state-owned National Power Corp [Napocor] in Lanao del Sur and elsewhere in Mindanao, Napocor officials said.

Late last month, armed men believed to be members of the same group toppled seven 10 [as published] transmission towers and woodpoles costing more than P2.5 million [Philippine pesos] in Lanao del Sur.

Napocor officials announced that power was fully restored in the province last Sept. 5 after local officials assured that the vital distribution lines would be secured.

Earlier, Napocor president Pablo Malixi ordered the suspension of repairs on the destroyed transmission lines unless local officials could assure that they would not be destroyed again.

Emmanuel Abellanosa, Napocor transmission line manager for the North-Central Mindanao area, said the local officials even promised to defray the cost of repairing transmission lines that terrorists would destroy in the future.

Brig. Gen. Romeo Padiernos, commanding officer of the Armed Forces Civil Relations Service, denied any knowledge of the terrorist groups responsible for the attacks on Napocor facilities.

But INQUIRER sources said the terrorist group consisted of former Muslim secessionist guerillas belonging to the Moro National Liberation Front and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front [MILF] as well as members of the so-called "Cordemus group" led by one "Commander Pretty Boy."

Other terrorist leaders include Dimas Maontol alias "Mindanao Dimas Cowboy," a former vice-chairman of the MILF Military Affairs Division 2, the sources said.

The same sources said the terrorist group was selling looted transmission wires at P40 per kilo.

The group was nearly arrested when they tried to sell the wires to a businessman in Iligan City but managed to escape reportedly after giving P2,000 to policemen manning the checkpoint where they were intercepted.

Sulu Political Leaders Pledge Armed Feuds End

HK1509033892 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 15 Sep 92 p 1

[Text] Political leaders of Sulu pledged over the weekend to pursue "demilitarized politics" in a bid to end their armed conflicts and start anew with the development of the island province. The pledge was given during the "Sulu Arms Limitations Talks" (SALT) attended by Interior and Local Government Secretary Rafael Alunan III and coordinated by Sen. Santanina Rasul.

President Ramos has named Sulu as one of the 16 provinces in the country to be transformed into models of development.

Alunan, who is the Cabinet Officer for Regional Development (CORD) for the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), called on the Sulu leaders to "stop investing in firearms and start investing in the future of our children." "Each time violent incidents happen in Sulu, our future is set back, the pace of development of the whole country is set back," Alunan said.

Rasul also appealed to the leaders to "put aside their differences and work for the welfare of the people of Sulu." Sulu Gov. [Governor] Tupay Loong, who acknowledged "existing political differences," committed himself to work for reconciliation through more and substantial dialogues among local leaders. All the local mayors made public commitments to resolve differences through dialogues and the "traditional modes of recompense" in matters of conflict.

Through the initiative of Alunan, the political and military leaders marched together on the streets of Jolo to show the people as well as their "partisan followers" that the first steps toward unity and development have taken place.

SALT was attended by the Sulu governor, Congressmen Bin Saudi Tulawie and Asani Tammang, ARMM Vice Gov. Benjamin Loong, provincial board members of Sulu and all 18 mayors, Brig. Gen. [Brigadier General] Antonio Villamor, 3rd marine brigade commander, and Supt. [Superintendent] Rolando Hermoso, Sulu PNP [Philippine National Police] director.

Thailand

Pro-Democracy Parties Discuss Forming Government

BK1409140092 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 14 Sep 92

[Text] Secretary generals of the four former opposition parties held a meeting at the Siam City Hotel this afternoon. They are: Major General Sanan Khachonprasat, secretary general of the Democrat Party; Dr.

Udomsin Sisaengnam, deputy leader of the Phalang Tham Party; Phisan Mulasatsathon, secretary general of the New Aspiration Party; and Chaiyot Sasomsap, secretary general of the Solidarity Party. Banyat Banthatthan, deputy leader of the Democrat Party, was also present. A news conference was held after the meeting.

Banyat Banthatthan said to newsmen that the meeting of the allied parties as it was held today was something the people had already expected. He reported that the discussion today was casual. The four parties agreed to form a government, and to support the leader of the Democrat Party, Chuan Likphai, as prime minister, since the Democrat Party had won the most seats in parliament.

Banyat said those attending the meeting today would report the conclusion reached at the meeting to their respective parties. They believe that there should not be any problems since the party leaders have already made their stands known through the mass media.

Asked whether they would bring in other parties to join a coalition if they thought that the votes earned by the four parties were not sufficient to guarantee government stability, Banyat said that other parties might join the coalition. But he said this matter will have to be discussed first of all among the parties. The four parties have 185 votes. They will hold discussions among themselves in order to find out how many votes are necessary to insure government stability.

Banyat said today's discussion focused on the question of who would be prime minister. They did not discuss who would be the speaker of the House of Representatives. Asked whether the four parties still uphold the principle of not including former cabinet ministers whose assets had been frozen, Banyat said there was no question on this point, since this was a principle adopted by the four parties a long time ago. Banyat said that at today's meeting, everyone was told to do the homework necessary to find out which parties should be approached to join the coalition.

Banyat said that regardless of whether the leaders of the New Aspiration and Phalang Tham Parties will be asked to join the cabinet, everyone sincerely wants the two party leaders to be in the cabinet, since this would help to strengthen government stability. Dr. Udomsin Sisaengnam and Phisan Mulasatsathon had been assigned to discuss this issue with their party leaders. Banyat said they believed that this coalition formula would not be reversed, since politicians have already learned a lesson from the past—namely, that political parties should be careful about running counter to the will of the people.

Concerning the question of the allocation of ministerial portfolios and the struggle for posts, Banyat said he believed there would be no problem. Outsiders who wish to hold cabinet positions will be given consideration based on their qualifications and suitability. The four parties will be generous concerning allocation of ministerial positions to the extent that such actions are beneficial to the nation.

Army 'Satisfied' With Poll Procedures, Outcome

BK1409151992 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Sep 92 p 3

[From "Election Special" supplement]

[Text] The Army is satisfied with yesterday's election and hopes peace and prosperity will return, according to senior Army officers.

Assistant Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Yutthana Khamdi yesterday said that everybody appeared glad and satisfied with the results of the election and no untoward events would follow.

Gen Yutthana said Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Wimon Wongwanit would have nothing to worry about during his tour of Malaysia and Indonesia. He left last night.

Gen Yutthana and the other assistant Army chief, Gen Phaibun Hongsinlak, denied that the turnout of military voters was low. But, fewer military voters went to the polls yesterday than in March, observers said.

—Police, meanwhile, said more than 200 cases of election law violations were reported nationwide yesterday.

But the number was a sharp drop—to nearly half—from the election in March, which saw a record 395 reported cases.

A total 204 cases were committed between 6:00 p.m. on Saturday to 9:00 p.m. yesterday, the Police Department's Peacekeeping Centre reported.

Most of the cases were related to Article 13 of the Electoral Law prohibiting the sale and distribution of alcohol, which became effective at 6 p.m. on Saturday.

The second most violated cases were offences under Article 35 dealing with attempts to woo voters for the benefit of certain candidates or parties after campaigning hours, which close at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday.

Pol Maj-Gen Chaiyasith Kanchanakit, director of the centre, said 47 cases occurred in the Metropolitan Police area, 17 cases in the North Bangkok Police area, 26 cases in southern metropolitan areas, and five in Thon Buri areas.

He said that violations in this election were less widespread than during the election last March, dropping from 59 in the last election to 47 cases this time.

The centre said that many cases involved the abuse of power by the authorities, the acceptance of money or goods to vote for someone, and illegally campaigning on Saturday, a report said.

In addition to 47 cases of violations committed in the area supervised by police in the North, South, and Thon

Buri metropolitan areas, 50 violations were reported in the Police Third Region. Also, 14, 42, and 51 cases were reported in the police's first, second, and fourth regions respectively.

Pro-Democracy Groups Comment on New Government

BK1509051192 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 Sep 92 p 3

[Text] Pro-democracy groups and non-governmental organisations generally expressed satisfaction with the outcome of voting on Sunday. But their comments were tinged with disappointment. Basically, the pro-democracy groups represented by the Confederation for Democracy (CFD) and the Campaign for Popular Democracy (CPD) are worried about the stability of the new government.

They are disappointed that the former Opposition parties did not emerge with a comfortable majority.

"We said before that we expected the pro-democracy parties to gain more than half the seats and they have," said CFD chairman Dr San Hatthirat yesterday. "They didn't do as well as they should but it's still satisfactory," he said.

CPD secretary-general Somchai Homla-o said the former opposition parties would probably form the new government. "But it will be a little precarious," he said.

NGO representatives were more ambivalent. Environmentalist Witun Phoemphongsacharoen, director of the Project for Ecological Recovery, would not say whether he was satisfied.

"The election result reflects a fact in the Thai society that developing democracy will take a long time."

He said the main reason why the election took place and ended as well as it did was because of concerted demands by the public. But he feared such demands might have arisen out of the current trend and not really out of a commitment to democratic principles. He agreed the election has advanced the cause of democracy, but warned the public has to look beyond the electoral process.

"We have to turn the politics of a minority into a democracy for the majority. We need to have participation of the masses," he said.

All groups agreed the priorities for the new government should include decentralisation of power to rural areas.

"The new government should urgently take steps to decentralise power to rural areas in terms of budget and income distribution," Dr. San said. He said Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun's government has already started a process of electing certain kamnan [village chiefs] and phuyai ban [adult members of a household].

He suggested that the process should be applied nationwide without exception, which he said would help speed up the decentralisation process. He also said election of governors should be instituted for provinces which have readiness in economic and educational terms.

Both the CFD and CPD believe the former Opposition parties will uphold their pledge to reject the amnesty decree covering those involved in the massacre of demonstrators in May. They want the new government to make a sincere effort to resolve the issue of missing persons. They want it to amend or repeal laws which infringe on individual rights. These include the Anti-Communist Act and the Internal Peacekeeping Act.

They would also like measures to restructure the armed forces.

They oppose the inclusion in Cabinet of MPs who are "tainted" either by corruption claims or by their previous stand in opposing the pro-democracy movement. If there is disagreement over the choice of certain MPs as ministers the groups said they would give the pro-democracy coalition their opinion but respect its decisions.

"We have to trust the four parties to make their choices. It's their right," said Dr San. "We will see how well they administer the country and whether they adhere to the policies and social contract they promised the electorate before the election."

Mr Witun said power decentralisation also means the right of people to have access to information, to participate in decisions affecting the nation and their localities, and to be equally entitled to the benefits of economic development and use of natural resources.

Reflecting the views of his colleagues in other regions, Mr Witun was sceptical about the Democrats' stand on the environment.

"Everyone regards the Democrats as angels," he said. "But if you talk about the environment, they are no angels."

He said the Democrats had controlled ministries dealing with aspects of the environment while they were part of a government for more than a decade.

"Their policies were consistently against public opinion on the environment," he said. He cited as an example the Democrats' support of the construction of Kaeng Krung Dam in the Surat Thani and Sua Ten Dam in Phrae.

"I want to appeal to them to change their ways. 'Look into your past and sweep away your discredited policies'," he said.

Piphop Thongchai, secretary-general of the Foundation for Children, said liberalisation of the education policy must be considered part of the decentralisation process. He said individuals or citizens' groups should be allowed to participate in managing the nation's education.

"Education has become a political tool which politicians and officials have exploited to their own benefits," Mr Piphop said. "We have to change a concept that people must be under official control. People must be able to participate in the political process so that they can help resolve differences in the system."

He said he wants the new government to strengthen Prime Minister Anan's policy of political transparency as this would be a way to monitor and reduce corruption among ministerial members and officials.

Mr Piphop also suggested the government support citizens' groups which look after the interests of local people. The government should subsidise NGOs and other citizens' groups through measures such as tax exemptions or matching funds.

"It would help relieve the burden on the state because these groups are very hard-working.

"And if they're strong, they would provide a firm basis for developing democracy," he said.

Anti-Vote Buying Group Reports 'Irregularities'

BK1409094992 Bangkok THE NATION in English 14 Sep 92 p A2

[Text] An anti-vote buying organization, operated jointly by the Interior Ministry, PollWatch, and THAI RAT newspaper, has received more than 3,523 complaints of election irregularities.

Of these, 1,882 allegations were made by letter, 1,397 by telephone and 167 by telex, said a member of the watchdog, Suchin Thiyawat.

A further 77 cases had been reported by people calling at the organization's office in Bangkok, he said.

He said the organization had received good cooperation from the Interior Ministry and PollWatch in its attempt to curb vote-buying.

PollWatch yesterday reported several suspected electoral law offences while the voting process was going on.

Vote-buying was reportedly rampant in Pathum Thani Province yesterday with one candidate alleged to have made death threats against PollWatch volunteers.

A PollWatch press release said the candidate, who wore a red T- shirt, was seen distributing money to local residents in a soi near the Bangkok University campus.

The candidate's identity was not revealed.

PollWatch quoted the candidate as saying he would order gunmen to shoot some of its volunteers yesterday afternoon.

PollWatch reported the incident to Interior Minister Phao Sarasin and asked the Police Department to provide more security in the area.

In a related development, a PollWatch volunteer in the province's Constituency 1 said a candidate was seen giving money at the rate of Bt [baht] 200 per three people in Bung Nam Rak area.

PollWatch volunteers in Khon Kaen Province yesterday urged the provincial governor to transfer a community leader in Ubonrat district for allegedly favouring the Chat Phatthana Party.

PollWatch spokesman Chira Hongladarom said the community leader had campaigned and given money to local residents, even in public places, on behalf of the party. He ignored the district chief's warning to refrain from doing so, he added.

Chira, however, did not reveal the community leader's name.

Pollwatch yesterday also accused the Chat Thai Party of giving Bt100 each to government officials at all polling stations in Suphan Buri's Constituency 1, a panel press release said.

It said the heads of polling stations were offered an additional amount but did not reveal how much.

According to the release, a municipal councillor of Song Phi Nong District, Thongchai Samitsombat, allegedly told the local residents to vote for Chat Thai candidates and he would give them Bt200 each on Tuesday.

The release also charged that many people returned to vote more than once at several polling units in Constituency 1. Chat Thai Secretary General Banhan Sinlapa-acha was competing for a House seat in the constituency.

In addition, it alleged that a Chat Thai candidate, who was competing in Si Prachan District, gave two litres of gasoline to motorcyclists and five litres to car drivers about 200 metres from a polling station.

In Khon Kaen, a PollWatch official yesterday alleged that over Bt50 million in cash was used to buy votes in this northeastern province's Constituency 2 on the election eve until early yesterday morning.

Raksak Chatchaisathit, secretary general of the PollWatch Region 4, alleged that six candidates in Constituency 2 had spent the money to buy votes during the run-up to the election.

The regional office covers Maha Sarakham, Roi Et, Kalasin, and Loei.

He said about Bt140 million in Bt10, Bt20 and Bt50 bank notes were withdrawn from commercial banks in Khon Kaen during the two days before the election.

Raksak said his office had received complaints that canvassers of some candidates in the constituency were promised gold necklaces and expensive rings if their candidates won.

Unfortunately there is no easy way out of this dilemma. But coopting either Seri Tham or Social Action, or both, seems to entail less political risk than taking Chat Phatthana into the "angelic" fold.

Dailies on Victory of Pro-Democracy Alliance

BK1509114792

[Editorial Report] Four Thai-language dailies, THAI RAT, SIAM POST, NAEO NA, and MATICHON on 15 September carry editorials commenting on the victory of the four-party alliance—the Democrat, New Aspiration, Phalang Tham, and Solidarity parties—in the 13 September general election.

THAI RAT's 800-word editorial on page 3, "The New Government and Public Expectations," says the four former opposition parties now have a majority of seats in the parliament and are entitled to form a coalition government, with the leader of the Democrat Party as prime minister. The editorial notes: "As we have already said, the election on 13 September is very significant for the future of the country. The people have exercised the sovereign power which has been given back to them, and have chosen their representatives to the parliament. It is clear that they put their trust in the pro-democracy parties with their image of honesty."

Now the most urgent task for the four-party alliance is to form the government, which is likely to be a coalition of the four parties with Chuan Likphai, leader of the Democrat Party, as prime minister. "Some people have expressed concern that the slim majority which the four parties have may not be sufficient to ensure government stability. They hint at the possibility of the Seri Tham Party, with Dr. Athit Urairat as leader, joining the coalition. In our opinion, government stability does not depend solely on the number of seats in parliament. What is more important: the new government must show to the people that it is determined to tackle national problems and bring happiness to the people, with a sense of reponsiblity and honesty," the paper concludes.

SIAM POST's 600-word editorial on page 4, "Democratic Government," says: "According to etiquette, the Democrat Party, which gained the largest number of seats in parliament—79—should be given a chance act as the core in forming a coalition government. The party, meanwhile, must use its best judgment in order to decide whether more support is still needed from other parties to ensure the political stability of the four-party alliance. The Democrat Party must take into account the principle of righteousness, but it must uphold national interest above all." The editorial wants the process of forming the government to be carried out urgently. "This should not take more than two weeks, otherwise a group of parties with a number of seats close to a majority could seize the opportunity to form a government ahead of the Democrat Party," the editorial says.

NAEO NA's 400-word editorial on page 4, "Watch Out for Opportunists," notes: "The formation of the new coalition government by the four former allies—the Democrat, New Aspiration, Phalang Tham, and Solidarity parties—will not be an easy solution, because more seats in the House are still needed to gain an absolute majority. Therefore, the four parties are thinking of including the new Seri Tham Party in their coalition. However, with eight more seats from this party, with its fairly respectable leader, the coalition will have only 10 seats more than half of the total number of seats in the House. A coalition with such a combination will therefore lack sufficient political stability."

The four allied parties had earlier pledged not to appoint persons declared "unusually rich" by the Assets Examination Committee to the ministerial posts of their coalition while other parties wishing to join the coalition have reportedly agreed not to propose such persons for cabinet posts.

The editorial continues: "Should the four parties decide to accept one or two parties which have won many seats from the general election into their coalition to ensure the absolute majority vote in the House, rivalry for ministerial posts will ensue.

"If one of the two or both parties which have won respectively fewer seats than the Democrat Party succeed in persuading some allied parties to join their coalition by offering the premier post to them, the Democrat and its remaining allies will automatically become the opposition."

MATICHON's 500-word editorial on page 8, "Do Not Forget the Pledge," says that the victory won from the general election by the four former oppostion parties has confirmed the "spirit of the May Incident. That is, the prime minister must come from the election. The people do not want an outsider to be the leader of the government."

Expressing concern over the stability of the coalition of the four allied parties, the editorial suggests: "An option left for the four parties is to include other parties with clean records in their coaltion, and the Seri Tham Party possesses good qualifications."

In conclusion, the editorial says: "The victory of the four former opposition parties has elated and comforted politically conscious people, in particular those in the business sectors both inside and outside the country. The Democrat Party, equipped with extensive experience in the administration of the country, will be able to avoid past mistakes and sail the coalition ship smoothly to its destination."

Country-Wide Voter Turnout Viewed

BK1509030792 Bangkok THE NATION in English
15 Sep 92 pp A1,A2

[Text] Bangkok registered the lowest voter turnout in Sunday's election which saw a nationwide turnout of 62.02 per cent, one of the highest since 1933, the Interior Ministry reported yesterday.

The northeastern province of Mukdahan claimed the highest voter turnout of 90.41 per cent while Bangkok's turnout was only 47.39 per cent.

Interior Minister Pol Gen Phao Sarasin termed the election a success while Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun expressed satisfaction with the outcome.

Sunday's turnout was a considerable improvement from the 59.21 per cent of the electorate who turned out for the last poll in March.

It was one of the highest turnouts since the first election in 1933 but did not surpass the 64.43 per cent and 63.56 per cent in the 1986 and 1988 elections respectively.

It was the second time that Mukdahan, which had 123,932 eligible voters came out on top. It scored the highest turnout in the March election with 87.11 per cent.

Bangkok also came last in the March election with 42.56 per cent.

Anek [not further identified] said Bangkok reported the lowest portion of spoiled ballots at 1.25 per cent while the highest number was recorded in Mae Hong Son at 6.22 per cent.

The Democrat Party won the largest number of House seats, 79 from 360, in the Sunday's election. Seventy-seven seats were taken by Chat Thai Party, 60 by Chat Phatthana Party, 51 by New Aspiration Party, 47 by Phalang Tham Party, 22 by Social Action Party, eight by Seri Tham Party, eight by Solidarity Party, four by Muanchon Party, three by Prachakon Thai Party and one by Ratsadon Party.

Chat Thai Party secretary general Banhan Sinlapa-acha and his two running mates in Suphan Buri's Constituency 1, topped the vote count for the country.

Banhan earned the most votes with 181,572, compared to 165,614 he got in the March 22 poll. He received the most votes in that election as well.

Deputy Chat Thai leader Bun-ua Prasoetsuwan was second with 172,076 votes, while Chumphon Sinlapa-acha, Banhan's younger brother, earned 168,169 votes.

In the March election, Bun-ua had 147,075 votes. Narong Wongwan, then Samakkhi Tham Party leader, was third with 145,210.

Interior Minister Phao said the poll was an improvement on past elections because a watchdog committee had been formed to encourage a free and fair election.

Pol Gen Phao, also Deputy Prime Minister, then thanked government and private agencies taking part in the "successful" election.

Deputy Bangkok City Clerk Kriangsak Lohachala yesterday expressed disappointment over the low voter turnout in the capital.

Kriangsak said he expected at least 50 per cent of eligible voters to exercise their rights as a result of intensive public relations campaigns throughout the city by the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration and private organizations to urge voters to go to polls.

The official proposed the polling procedure be improved to eliminate problems that muffled people's interest in voting.

Kriangsak said reports on government officials' partiality before election day might also have discouraged voters from voting.

Meanwhile, the Confederation for Democracy, the driving force behind the popular uprising that toppled the government of non-elected premier Suchinda Khraprayun in May, yesterday echoed the government's satisfaction with the poll results.

Four pro-democracy parties in the former opposition bloc—Democrat, Phalang Tham, New Aspiration and Solidarity—won 185 seats while the others, including those which supported Gen Suchinda to become premier, secured 175 seats on Sunday.

Confederation Chairman Dr San Hatthirat yesterday said pro-democracy parties should have the right to form the new government because they hold a slim majority in parliament.

The confederation he said, hoped the groups would quickly reach agreement in forming a new government coalition to repair the damage caused by the past political turbulence.

San said he believed the decisionmakers of the new government should know what kind of Cabinet ministers the people want. He added it might be acceptable for the pro-democracy camp to invite one of the parties of the Suchinda coalition to join the new administration to ensure stability.

"But they should be careful with such an option," San said. "They should not forget their pledge that they will not nominate politicians whose assets were seized to be Cabinet ministers."

He was referring to the 10 politicians who were named "unusually rich" by an investigation committee installed by the now-defunct National Peacekeeping Council after the coup in February, 1991.

The committee subsequently ordered the seizure of assets of several politicians, including Chat Phatthana (National Development) Party leader Chatchai Chunhawan, Chat Thai Party leader Praman Adireksan and Social Action Party leader Montri Phongphanit.

Former secretary of the Student Federation of Thailand, Prinya Thewanarumitkun, yesterday also expressed satisfaction with the results of the election.

Government Financial Position 'Stronger'

BK1209040392 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Sep 92 p 13

[Text] The Government's financial position this fiscal year will be stronger than expected with a cash surplus of 70,000-80,000 million baht, higher than the earlier projection of 63,000 million baht.

Bank of Thailand spokesman Phisit Li-atham said by the end of August the Government had a cash surplus of 50,300 million baht. However, business firms and independent professionals will have to pay their mid-year corporate and income taxes in September and that is expected to amount to 25,000 million baht, so, by the end of the fiscal year the Government's cash surplus will exceed 70,000 million baht.

Although the Government has registered a stronger fiscal position, the inflation rate has not risen. "The 12-month moving average inflation rate at the end of August was only 4.8%," he said.

The low inflation rate is partly attributed to an economic slowdown in the second quarter of the year, he said. The slowdown was caused by the uncertain political situation and the tragic events in May.

Despite the economic slowdown the Government's tax collection did not decline. Mr Phisit said, "It is the result of the implementation of the value-added tax system which makes it difficult for taxpayers to evade paying tax."

Besides improved tax collection, it is expected that the Government will earn additional revenues from the sale of two oil refining units to Thai Oil Co, he said.

The Cabinet on Thursday gave final approval for the Industry Ministry to sell the two oil refining units to Thai Oil for US$348.6 million (more than 8,700 million baht).

Although the Government's fiscal position will be stronger, the cash surplus will be lower than that of last fiscal year as the Government has spent more as a result of the civil servant salary increase.

Regarding the money situation since the beginning of this year, Mr Phisit said it is quite tight as it is the period of corporate tax payment and also the period that commercial banks have to set aside legal cash reserves. "So, the Bank of Thailand has to inject cash into the market to accommodate the liquidity. The peak was on September 4, on which the central bank injected 7,200 million baht into the market, comprising more than 4,600 million baht through the repurchase market and more than 2,500 million baht through the loan window, he said.

Meanwhile, late last month commercial banks sold foreign currencies worth $500 million to the Exchange Equalisation Fund [EEF], and Thai Oil Co also sold $300 million to the EEF. "As a result, the foreign exchange reserves had increased to $20,700 million," Mr Phisit said.

Government To Take Measures Against Tape Pirates

BK1509051592 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 Sep 92 p 28

[Text] Thailand is to impose additional measures against those who manufacture and distribute copies of foreign audio and video products. Intensifying the crackdown on the suspected copyright pirates producing foreign audio and video tapes, the working group for resolving copyright violation in Thailand yesterday decided to seek cooperation from government agencies to impose indirect measures against the illegal business.

The deputy director-general of the Intellectual Property Rights Department, Yangyong Puangrat, said yesterday that the working group had agreed to appoint additional representatives from the Finance Ministry and the Industry Ministry to find measures to deal with foreign copyright violators. He said the Revenue Department had been assigned to crack down on some major distributors and producers of audio and video tapes suspected of copying foreign audio and video tapes and evading tax.

"The multi-million-baht pirate tape industry has for long evaded tax, so it is the right time to do something," he said.

At the same time the Customs Department will check all audio and video tape exports so as to be able to to give an assurance that exports are not copies or products which have violated foreign copyrights.

Vietnam

'Hostile' U.S. Trade Embargo Extension Condemned

BK1509110592 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 14 Sep 92

[Text] U.S. President George Bush has extended the U.S. trade embargo on Vietnam for another year. Our radio has this comment:

Trade embargo has been imposed on Vietnam by the United States for several years now. Early this year, the U.S. lifted some restrictions allowing nongovernmental organizations' assistance to Vietnam. Private companies and organizations have been permitted to export essential goods to Vietnam. Telecommunications between the two countries has been established. Groups of American tourists are now paying visits to Vietnam. Though these are small steps, we are acknowledged they are positive changes.

Despite all of these positive developments, the U.S. President has decided to extend the U.S. trade embargo against Vietnam for another year. This shows that the U.S. continues its out-of-date hostile policy against Vietnam which is run counter to the American people and to the political circle itself.

U.S. Senator Murkowski said in Washington in June that it is provincial and narrow-minded not to trade with Vietnam. His assistant further said that at this junction, trade sanctions against Vietnam neither help Vietnam nor help the U.S. to achieve what it wants.

British Minister Goodlad Concludes Visit

BK1309145992 Hanoi VNA in English 1436 GMT 13 Sep 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA Sept. 13—Alastair Goodlad, minister of state for foreign and commonweath affairs of Britain, paid a five-day visit to Vietnam ended today.

While here, Mr. Alastair Goodlad and his party were warmly received by Vice Premier Tran Duc Luong, and had working sessions with Dau Ngoc Xuan, chairman of the State Committee for Cooperation and Investment, Tran Dinh Hoan, minister of labour, war invalids and social affairs, and Le Kim Lang, minister of trade and tourism.

The delegation held talks with Deputy Foreign Minister Nguyen Dy Nien and visited some welfare projects for repatriates in Quang Ninh Province funded by the British Government and European Community.

It also visited Ho Chi Minh City where it met with the British oil companies operating in Vietnam.

During their talks, and meetings, the two sides noted with satisfaction that the friendship and cooperation between the two countries have seen positive development. Vietnam highly appreciated Britain's humanitarian aid and investment, particularly in oil prospection and exploitation.

Both sides expressed the desire to increase further bilateral relations in all fields. The British side highly appreciated the initial results of the allround renovation in Vietnam regarding socioeconomic stability as the fundamental condition to draw foreign investment and development for Vietnam's economy.

Mr. Alastair Goodlad welcomed the results recorded by Vietnam in implementing the open door foreign policy, particularly regarding the countries in Southeast-Asia. It supported the stance of Vietnam and ASEAN countries in solving the issues in the East Sea and declared that the British Government is of the view that a peaceful solution must be found for any sovereignty and oil disputes in the East Sea.

On China's seizure of Vietnamese ships right in territorial waters of Hong Kong and international waters, the British minister said that the British Government had raised an energetic protest and urged China to stop such acts immediately. He also said that in its position as president of the EC, British will contribute to promoting relations between the EC and Vietnam and between Vietnam and the United States, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

Then two sides agreed on the need to seek all possible measures to step up economic, investment and commercial cooperation between the two countries, in their own interests and the interest of peace, stability and cooperation in the region and the world as a whole.

Doan Khue Article Examines Party's Military Line

922E0198A Hanoi TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN in Vietnamese Aug 92 pp 3-15, 45

[Article by General Doan Khue, minister of national defense: "On the Occasion of the 47th Anniversary of the October Revolution and National Day—Understanding the Resolution of the Third Plenum of the CPV [Communist Party of Vietnam] Central Committee: Some Basic Issues Regarding the Party's Military Line in the New Stage"]

[Text] The party's military line in the new stage is a part of the program of national construction for the period of transition to socialism that the seventh party congress has set forth. The military line is subordinate to the party's revolutionary program and aimed at helping to successfully carry it out. The party's military line must be based on the characteristics of the world situation, the situation in the region concerned, and the situation of our country, as well as on the destructive and aggressive plots and acts of enemy forces; further develop the nation's military traditions in the building of national defense and in time of war; and continue and display the precious people's war experiences acquired in the past decades under the party's leadership. It must also take into account the latest experiences and newest achievements of other countries in the world in the fields of military theories, science, art, and technology.

By reviewing realities and studying theories we *continue to build a system of national defense views and theories in our country (to be closely linked with security),* on the basis of the precious experiences we have acquired; continually supplement and perfect *the military line, our party's line on all-people national defense and on the people's war for the defense of the fatherland and our people's Armed Forces; build a modern all-people national defense of the SRV;* and contribute to maintaining political stability, building all aspects of the country's potential, preventing and repudiating the danger of war, defending peace, defending the socialist renovation, and strongly defending the socialist Vietnamese fatherland under any circumstances.

As an initial step, we mention a number of basic issues as follows:

I. Military Traditions of the Nation and Major Experiences in People's War Under Party Leadership

1. The military traditions of the Vietnamese nation throughout history had to do with defending the country in addition to building the country, and in peacetime trying to make the country prosperous, to test the people's strength, and to achieve "rich people, strong country" as a policy for long-term defense of the country. They were the traditions of profound patriotism, independence, self-rule, and self-reliance; and, as the country was invaded or put under foreign rule, they demanded that we rise up to wage war to defend the fatherland or to liberate the nation. In the history of the Vietnamese nation, which lasted for a few millenniums, many centuries of peace were interspersed with patriotic wars fought for maintaining or regaining national independence and sovereignty. The Vietnamese people had at times lost their country, sometimes because of lack of vigilance or wrong national defense lines, sometimes because of a combination of national decline, people's sufferings, decadence of the ruling class, and internal disunity; and sometimes because of the destruction of national solidarity. But the heroic Vietnamese nation never remained vanquished for long: in the face of foreign aggression or under foreign rule, it always stood up, generation after generation, to resolutely fight for independence and freedom. They were the traditions of all-people and total war in the patriotic wars fought for the good cause, for defense of the fatherland, and for liberation of the nation; in the wars fought and won by the small against the big, by the few against the many; and in the wars fought against the aggressors who had lived under the same feudal system as our country's but had had much greater economic potential than ours and an Army several times more numerous than ours.

2. In the new era, under the leadership of the party of the worker class, our people boosted those traditions to a new level of quality and fought many patriotic wars for national independence and socialism as a small country that had not much land, not a large population, and a backward economy; used to be a colony and a semifeudal country; and has overthrown the colonial rule and won the wars of aggression waged by the new enemies—the imperialists having economic, industrial, and military potentials many times greater than ours.

After the victory in the war of resistance against the French, the time of peace devoted to reconstruction of the North and consolidation of national defense was not long enough. After the victory in the war of resistance against America, we had to spend many years to fight war for the defense of the fatherland, while the country either was at war or had peace and war at the same time. Only in the last few years did we enjoy peace in the entire country and devote our energy to both building the country and consolidating national defense. As a result, we have had little experience in building and consolidating national defense, which remained very new issues for our party and people. Our primary experience in the last few decades was an *experience in war.*

We can mention hereunder the *five major experiences in the Vietnamese people's war in the new era under the party's leadership, or in terms of revolutionary war, the five major experiences in party leadership over the revolution, which the seventh party congress program already mentioned.*

One, to adhere to the political goal of the people's war meant to carry out the goal of the revolution, namely, national independence and socialism. To closely and skillfully combine the task of regaining and defending national independence with that of gradually building socialism in conformity with the tasks of the revolution in different stages and periods.

Two, to wage an all-people war on the basis of a nationwide solidarity bloc, with the worker-farmer alliance serving as a foundation under the leadership of the worker class. To fight a total war and to create a joint force to defeat the enemy. To build the people's Armed Forces consisting of three armies: the main-force troops (including the reserve and drafted troops), local troops, and militia and self-defense forces serving as the backbone for the all-people fight against agrression.

Three, to correctly apply the revolutionary method and revolutionary violence to the military field, to creatively adopt the formula for waging war and the military art of the people's war in conformity with the actual objects of combat and the balance of power in different wars. To combine military combat with political struggle and, when necessary, with diplomatic struggle. To thoroughly understand the strategic offensive theory using a small force to beat a large one, a few men to fight many, and weapons and equipment of different technical capabilities (modern, relatively modern, and rudimentary weapons) to fight and defeat an enemy having more troops and numerically superior and more modern equipment. To combine guerrilla warfare and local people's warfare with regular warfare and warfare using main-force corps [binh doan]. To combine offensive, counteroffensive, and defensive forms of combat, with the first and second being the principal ones. To combine destroying the enemy with defending ourselves and protecting and regaining our mastery. To fight for a long time, to drive back the enemy one step at a time, to bring about collapse of one enemy component after another, and to win one victory after another; on this basis, to develop subjective efforts and to win total victory as soon as possible.

Four, to combine combat with production; to strengthen our forces, to strengthen the people's power, and to build a strong rear for the people's war and for effectively serving the front. To carry on the war of resistance and to rebuild the country at the same time; to fight and to gain more strength at the same time; depending on conditions and situation, to build new appropriate systems while fighting the war.

Five, to develop the spirit of independence, self-rule, and self-reliance; to thoroughly understand the view on reality, the view on development; to combine the nation's strength with the strength of the new era and to fully use favorable international conditions and situation.

The above-mentioned major experiences must be applied in a creative manner and brought to new heights in the task of defending the socialist Vietnamese fatherland and building an all-people, modern, and up-to-date national defense in our country.

II. The General Situation and Task of the Socialist Revolution in the Transitional Period in Our Country, and the Task of Defending the Socialist Vietnamese Fatherland

1. The seventh party congress program clearly points out that our country travels the transitional road to socialism under the circumstances of the international situation undergoing great and profound changes. "The outstanding characteristic in the present stage of our era is the fierce and complicated class and national struggle of people in all countries for peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress. Socialism is presently facing many difficulties and challenges. World history is undergoing ups and downs; however, *mankind in the end will surely arrive at socialism because that is the law of evolution of history.*" "The modern scientific and industrial revolution is taking place in an overpowering manner and sweeping along and attracting all countries to different degrees. Material production and social life are being in the process of being profoundly internationalized, and are greatly affecting the pace of historical development and the living of nations. These tendencies both create opportunities for fast development of countries and bring about fierce challenges, mostly for the economically backward countries."

Thus the new scientific and industrial revolution greatly increases society's material productive force and speeds up the process of internationalizing all aspects of national life. Holding the right of ownership over such new scientific and industrial achievements, the large capitalist groups have been strengthening their acts of exploiting the underdeveloped countries, accelerating the polarization between rich and poor nations and among population strata, and increasing the production and profitable sales of modern technical equipment and weapons, thus threatening the independence and freedom of nations and mankind as a whole and making the struggle of nations more bitter and varied, which takes place in new economic, scientific and technological, political, ideological, and military forms.

2. After having fought many wars for independence, freedom, and socialism in the last few decades, our people have now regained total independence and reunification of our fatherland and are taking the transitional road to socialism under peaceful conditions throughout the country. Our people do need to have peace in order to develop the country and to achieve "rich people, strong country."

"Our country, which used to be a colony and a semifeudal country having very low production, is taking the transitional road to socialism by bypassing capitalism. It has gone through decades of war, the aftermath of which is still adversely heavy. The remnants of colonialism and feudalism are still numerous. Adversary forces regularly try to undermine our people's socialist system and national independence." (seventh party congress program)

All our party, people, and Army must concentrate efforts on building the country, achieving the transition to socialism, maintaining political stability, gradually escaping the socioeconomic crisis, defeating backwardness and poverty, consolidating the peace, and maintaining independence and national sovereignty. "To build socialism and to defend the fatherland are two strategic tasks of the Vietnamese revolution. As our people put the national construction task at the top of our agenda, we always remain vigilant, consolidate national defense, maintain political security and social order and security, and defend the fatherland and revolutionary achievements." (seventh party congress program)

3. Following the failure of socialism in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, the adversary forces have been, on the one hand, expanding the results of their victory in those countries and, on the other, stepping up their offensive against the remaining socialist countries, which include Vietnam.

Their plot and action are aimed at accelerating the combined use of unarmed and armed measures against us to undermine in a total manner our politics, ideology, psychology, way of living, and so on, and encircling, isolating, and destroying us in the economic field, with the hope that they could achieve the so-called "peaceful evolution" and make the revolution in our country deviate from its course. They have been trying to seek, build, and develop reactionary forces of all kinds within our country; at the same time to nurture and bring back groups of armed reactionary exiles to join with the reactionaries within our country; and to combine armed activities with political activities, hoping to transform the socioeconomic crisis in our country into a political crisis and to incite rioting and overthrowing when opportunities arise. They may also look for excuses to effect an intervention, to carry out partial armed aggression, or to wage aggressive wars on various scales.

Our people thus have the task of dealing with and being ready to deal with any circumstances caused by the adversary forces: peaceful evolution, riot and overthrow, encirclement, blockade, surprise attacks by Armed Forces, aggressive wars on various scales. The politico-ideological front is a hot one to fight back the "peaceful development" and to defend the fatherland.

In the time to come, we will be determined and have the ability to keep the peace and to prevent the enemy from carrying out the "peaceful evolution" plot, inciting riot and overthrow, and waging a large-scale aggressive war if we continue to consolidate our all-people national defense and security front, to make the latter stronger everyday, to build the people's Armed Forces into ones that have better quality everyday and are combat ready, to maintain political security, and to have correct foreign policies, as well as steady principles and clever strategies. While we struggle to achieve expanding normal relations and international cooperation for the benefit of our national construction, we must have many tactics to effectively deal with and respond to events in order to defend our fatherland and our people's socialist renovation.

4. Aiming at the general goal of our country's revolution in the period of transition to socialism, namely, to defend independence and national sovereignty, to consolidate the peace, and to maintain political stability so as to concentrate efforts on building the country and accelerating the socialist renovation in accordance with the party program adopted at the seventh party congress, our *strategy for defense of the country* is reflected in the lines on national defense-security and foreign policies calling for "to create favorable international conditions for the construction and defense of the fatherland in its transition to socialism" (seventh party congress program); actively building the country to achieve "rich people, strong country"; maintaining good relations with other countries in the world, particularly the neighboring countries, without any discrimination as to their sociopolitical systems; strengthening foreign trade relations; actively participating in the international division of labor for the sake of peace, development, and also the defense of our fatherland; adopting correct strategies aimed at getting more friends and fewer enemies; and always being vigilant and taking initiative so as to be on the offensive on the politico-ideological front, to be combat ready on all fronts, to firmly defeat the adversary forces' plots and destructive and aggressive acts, and to defend the fatherland and the socialist revolution under any circumstances.

5. To carry out the above-mentioned "strategy for defense of the country," we must fulfill *the national defense and security task, now and in the coming years,* as the Third Plenum of the CPV [Communist Party of Vietnam] Central Committee, Seventh Term, has pointed out, as follows:

"*To consolidate national defense and to maintain national security* is the common task of all our party, people, and Army, in which the people's Army and people's public security force constitute the backbone of our Armed Forces. We must develop to a high level patriotism and revolutionary traditions, stress revolutionary vigilance, resolutely fight against the adversary forces' "peaceful development" plots and maneuvers and other destructive activities; build the all-people national defense front and people's security front to keep them strong, build clean and strong Armed Forces; and maintain political stability and defend the country's security, independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. We must take good care of the material and spiritual living of members of our Armed Forces." (Notice of the Third Plenum of the CPV Central Committee, Seventh Term)

III. Some Basic Views on Defense of the Socialist Vietnamese Fatherland

The views that are mentioned hereunder reflect both our party's new thinking on the task of defending the fatherland in the special situation of our country and of the world today and the efforts to maintain, inherit, and develop its basic military views and the major experiences in the Vietnamese people's war under its leadership in the past decades.

1. To closely combine defense of the fatherland with national construction, national defense with economy, and vice versa. To build the country along with defending the country is our nation's law of existence and development. To defend the socialist fatherland is one of the common laws of socialism. To combine defense of the fatherland with national onstruction both conforms to the law and reflects the needs of the situation and the task of our country's socialist revolution in the transitional period as we mentioned earlier. We must put at the top of our agenda the task of building the economy and concentrating on national construction in order to have a basis for building all aspects of the potential of national defense and security. At the same time, we must attach great importance to defending the fatherland; while we concentrate efforts on building the economy, we must devote an appropriate share of our forces to consolidating national defense and security in order to succeed in protecting our peaceful labor devoted to economic building and national construction. We must closely combine the two strategic tasks so as to be able to achieve "rich people, strong country." We must pay attention to overcoming the wrong tendencies, such as paying attention only to economic building and underestimating the national defense and security task, or vice versa, or separating the two tasks, which sometimes create obstacles for each other.

2. To defend the fatherland is closely linked with defending the socialist system. The national defense and security tasks are the two closely linked aspects of the task of defending the socialist fatherland in the new situation. To defend the fatherland, which consists of defending the nation's independence and sovereignty and the fatherland's territorial integrity (land, airspace, waters, and continental shelf), is linked with defending the socialist system, which means to defend the political system of socialism (including the CPV; the state of the people, by the people, and for the people; mass organizations, and so on), to defend the infrastructure and material and technical base of socialism, and to defend the socialist renovation. Therefore, to defend the fatherland must be closely linked with fighting foreign aggression and the enemy within our country. To defend the fatherland means we must keep the peace and consolidate the peace in independence and freedom; cleverly deal with complex circumstances, without committing errors and letting the enemy use provocation to launch an aggressive war; drive back any danger of war; and defeat the adversary forces' plots and destructive and aggressive acts while remaining ready to win an aggressive war that the enemy wages on various scales, including the large scale. We must guard against and overcome the wrong tendency to separate defending the fatherland from defending the socialist system, to separate national independence from socialism.

3. To develop a combined strength for the defense of the fatherland, to closely combine national defense with security, politics, economy, and foreign policies. National defense and security are the backbone of the task of defending the fatherland. We must have military and public security forces strong enough to be able to stop and repulse the military adventures of aggressors and to defeat the destructive, rioting, and overthrowing activities of the enemy within our country. In addition to the task of building the economy and the country, politics, the economy, and foreign policies must also serve the defense of the fatherland according to their own formulas. The experiences of the socialist countries in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union showed that the lastingness of the socialist system in reality did not mainly depend on military factors but rather on political and economic factors. In the critical situation, both economic and political, in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, military power was neutralized. Consequently, we must combine all political, economic, foreign policy, national defense, and security factors in order to create an overall strength to defend the fatherland. We must have a close coordination of our forces and of all aspects of our construction and struggle under the unified leadership of the party and management of the state, with active participation of all our party, Army, and people.

4. All-people national defense and people's war, construction of the three arms of the people's Armed Forces. That is one of our party's three basic military views, a major experience in the Vietnamese people's war, and the application of the view on the masses, the view on considering the people the roots, in the task of consolidating national defense and building the Army. We must creatively apply this view to the characteristics of the situation and revolutionary task in general, and to the task of defending the fatherland in particular, under the conditions of peaceful construction and defense of the fatherland and acceleration of the socialist renovation (more detailed presentation in parts IV and VI).

5. To stress the spirit of independence, self-rule, and self-reliance; to develop the nation's potential while taking advantage of favorable international conditions; to thoroughly understand the practical view, the view on development in all activities aimed at consolidating national defense and building the Army. To develop the nation's strength and at the same time to fully use the new favorable international conditions to deal with and overcome new challenges, to defend the fatherland and to build the country, and also to combine the strength of the nation with that of the era, in which as many socialist countries have collapsed and the socialist system has dissolved, the relations with the remaining socialist countries cannot remain the same. To guard against and overcome the tendency to be pessimistic and dependent, the lack of national pride and self-respect, dogmatism, escapism, and failure to fully consider our country's actual situation and conditions in today's international background.

IV. Building Strong All-People National Defense on the Basis of Accelerating the Socialist Renovation in All Its Aspects

1. To maintain political stability on the basis of accelerating all aspects of the socialist renovation; to gradually bring the country out of the socioeconomic crisis; and to fulfill the realistic interests, both material and spiritual, of all strata of the population, particularly workers, farmers, intellectuals, and the Armed Forces. To take care of the masses' everyday life; to achieve social justice; to fight the negative phenomena in the machineries of the party and state and in society. A very pressing matter today is to strengthen and renovate the party's mass-proselytizing work and to educate, organize, and mobilize the masses for enthusiastically implementing the party's and the state's renovation positions and policies in all fields, with attention being paid to the areas of religious people and ethnic minorities. To strengthen the close relationships between the party and the people, between the Army and the people; to build strong mass political bases in cities, the countryside, highlands, and border areas, particularly in key areas. To defeat all schemes of the adversary forces and bad elements, who want to take advantage of the country's difficulties and the party's and the state's shortcomings and mistakes to win the support of the masses, to create disturbances, and to disrupt social order and security, with the hope that the situation would lead to a political crisis, an opportunity for rioting and overthrowing.

2. To build all aspects of the national defense potential on the basis of closely combining the economy with national defense, national construction with defense of the fatherland. According to the modern concept of national defense potential, the combined strength of the nation and social system is created by various politico-spiritual, economic, scientific and technological, cultural, moral, and military factors. To build the country in all aspects allows us to have a basis for creating the national defense potential. But this does not mean that when the country has strong potentials in all aspects, it will automatically have a strong national defense potential. Consequently, as we concentrate efforts on building the country and the economy, we must set aside a certain part of our force for the task of consolidating national defense and building the Armed Forces, and must have clever plans to combine national defense with economy, and vice versa, in order to achieve the goal of making the country rich and national defense strong. The peacetime national defense strength finds its principal potential part in society as a whole, and in such sectors as the economy, culture, education, and so on, and another part being the permanent force, the one that directly and regularly fulfills the military task. Therefore, we must have such positions, policies, systems, and ensuring mechanisms that would conform to both the economy and national defense before we can properly fulfill the task of building the national defense potential while still being capable of concentrating on the task of building the economy and the country.

3. To build the all-people national defense and security front in each locality and in the entire country, with special attention being paid to border land and coastal areas, islands, large cities, and highlands. To build provincial (municipal) and district (city) defense zones; to build strong village and town (neighborhood and subward) national defense and security bases. To build the people's Army, and three arms serving as its core (with the reserve and drafted forces being also taken into consideration). Solid defense zones and strong main-force mobile corps [binh doan] serve as the foundation for the all-people national defense and people's war for defense of the fatherland. To make national defense education available to all people, particularly party and state cadres in all sectors, the young generation, and students in all schools. To mobilize and organize all people for participation in consolidating national defense and building the Army.

4. To have strategic plans for defending the fatherland in all possible situations and under all circumstances; therefrom, to have plans for mobilization, local and nationwide, allowing us to deal with all possible situations and circumstances, including the event of large-scale aggressive war.

5. To strengthen the party's leadership over the task of consolidating national defense and security, with the use of the Army and public security force. To take care on a regular basis of building the party, renovating and reorganizing the party, which is the factor that determines all victories in the country's task of building socialism and ensuring national defense and security. To build, consolidate, and ceaselessly improve the mechanism calling for the party to assume leadership, the state to manage, and the people to enjoy the ownership right in the field of national defense and defense of the fatherland. To institutionalize the party's lines and policies on the task of defending the fatherland.

V. Defeating the "Peaceful Evolution," "Rioting and Overthrowing"; At the Same Time, Being Ready To Win Aggressive Wars on Various Scales

1. To fight "peaceful evolution" and "rioting and overthrowing." First of all, on the theoretical, politico-ideological, cultural, and artistic front, to fight the hostile and wrong rightist opportunistic and revisionist arguments. To be actively on the offensive in the all-people revolutionary struggle for maintaining political stability. To uphold, apply, and develop in a creative manner Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh's thoughts. To closely link the politico-ideological work with the organizing task aimed at restoring cleanliness among cadres. To develop democracy and to mobilize the intellectual capacity of the nation as a whole so as to correctly and creatively resolve the problems that have arisen from the renovating task and to successfully implement the line on renovation as stated in the party's program; at the same time, to stress discipline, to demand serious observation of the party's principle of democratic centralism, to achieve a single voice and a single will for the party, to guard solidarity and unity in the party as we would guard the pupil of one's own eye, as stated in Uncle Ho's last will and testament.

To fight hostile arguments and wrong views—this is today's pressing front having to do with defending the fatherland, defending the system, defending the socialist direction of the renovation. This is the task of all our party, people, and Army. The key to determining its success is to properly carry out the renovation requirements and to reorganize the party, in accordance with the resolution adopted by the Third Plenum of the CPV Central Committee, Seventh Term.

Another decisive factor is to build a strong mass political base and to restore and strengthen the blood-and-flesh relationships between the party and the people, and between administration echelons and mass organizations on the one hand and the majority of people on the other, so as to deprive the adversary forces of any room for them to operate in. The mass-proselytizing work becomes an extremely important task, a major job for all the party, administration echelons, and mass organizations to do and for the Army to take an active part in.

The reactionary and adversary forces normally try to take advantage of and provoke mistakes, shortcomings, and negative phenomena in the party and state machineries; contradictions among the people; and legitimate mass demands that our party and state have not yet been in a position to satisfy.

Therefore, let us demand that we have correct understanding of the situation and cleverly and firmly deal with the cases that have taken place. We must distinguish the contradictions between the enemy and us from the contradictions among our people; remain vigilant in the face of the enemy's wicked tricks; and prevent the nonhostile contradictions among our people from becoming hostile ones that the enemy can take advantage of. We must actively draft plans of action covering possible situations that may take place and properly prepare the forces in charge. Let us correctly use our forces and appropriate opportunities and methods, in conformity with the principles, regulations, and orders of the responsible administration echelons. The public security force and Army must be the backbone of the all-people struggle aimed at defeating the enemy's "peaceful evolution" and "rioting and overthrowing."

2. To be ready and to prepare for being ready to beat the enemy in their armed attacks and aggressive wars on various scales. To develop experiences in people's war; to use flexibility and creativity in dealing with various circumstances: to fight the enemy by using the forces being permanently ready for combat of the highly mobile forces and the district and provincial defense zones, or by using partial or total mobilization along with changing the all-people national defense potential and national defense front into the people's war strength and front for defense of the fatherland.

To initiate an intervention and a certain form of partial aggressive war, which is a form of aggression, the enemy normally must create a pretext and seek an appropriate opportunity. We must actively prevent and avoid being incited and provoked by the enemy. When this situation happens, we must be very clever in dealing with it in time by combining strong local forces with highly mobile forces and combining solid defense zones with main-force mobile corps. To closely combine all military, political, and diplomatic aspects; to successfully resolve the incident in a quick and neat manner; not to allow military activities to widen and to prolong.

To win the aggressive wars on various scales, the most basic and decisive need is to thoroughly understand the party's military views and to apply and creatively develop the precious experiences that have been acquired in the Vietnamese people's war in the past decades. On this basis, let us think over, study, and resolve the strategic, military-campaign art, and tactical matters of the people's war, as well as the matters having to do with combat and building that the Armed Forces and the people must face, so as to have plans for gradually making preparations beginning in peacetime (as mentioned in the national defense strategy between now and the year 2000). We must get hold of and study the new military developments in other countries, from military doctrine to military organization, military art, and military technology, particularly the high-technology weapons and equipment, so as to try to score victory in accordance with the military views and military art of the Vietnamese people's war and with the equipment and technology that we now have. Let us guard against such phenomena as being doubtful and vacillating, such tendencies as dogmatism and escapism, or conservatism and the phenomena of relying on experience and failing to see all of the new needs in the future war of resistance against aggression if it takes place.

VI. Building the People's Armed Forces; Building a Regular, Elite People's Revolutionary Army Capable of Gradually Being Modernized and Successfully Fulfilling Any Task

The above-mentioned course of action eventually leads to new needs and tasks in the building of the people's Armed Forces and the people's Army.

1. To fully understand the new functions and tasks of the people's Army.

Being a *combat Army*, the people's Army does not have the only task of fighting aggression but it must also, along with the people's public security force, defend the fatherland and defend the socialist system. Therefore, we must criticize the arguments to the effect that the Army only serves the nation and has the task of defending the fatherland and that it must be "nonclass conscious," "neutral," "nonpolitical," and "neutralized." Such wrong arguments are aimed at incapacitating our Army in its task of defending the socialist system, in the class struggle, and in the fierce national struggle today, and at degrading it. Our Army still must actively attack the enemy on the theoretical, politico-ideological, literary, and artistic front, which it must also consider a peacetime combat task for the defense of the fatherland and the protection of its own ranks. We must therefore sharpen the theoretical-ideological weapons, struggle against and criticize in a firm and active manner the wrong arguments, and persuade the masses to adopt sharp and practically strong arguments and to contribute to defeating the adversary forces' dark schemes.

Being a *working Army*, the people's Army must actively take part in the mass-proselytizing work; join with the local party organizations, administrations, mass organizations, and public security forces in building strong political bases and contributing to strengthening the all-people solidarity bloc and the close relationships between the party and the people, between the Army and the people. On the one hand, it must assist the people in fighting natural disasters and in resolving difficulties in their production and everyday life; on the other hand, it must make propaganda to encourage the people to fully understand and correctly implement the party's and the state's renovation positions and policies, and to turn them into realistic successes. This is also a bitter class struggle to defeat the enemy's wicked plots aimed at dividing the all-people solidarity bloc and winning the masses over from the revolutionary side so as to serve their counterrevolutionary schemes.

Being a *productive Army*, our Army does not solely increase production around kitchens and gardens to improve somewhat the quality of its troops' meals, but it must actively take part in building the economy, building the country, in accordance with appropriate models and scales, and contribute to satisfying a part of its own material and technical needs in construction and training, and to building the country and the national defense potential.

2. To concentrate efforts on building the Army in the political field as a basis for improving its overall quality.

In the politico-ideological field, to firmly affirm the socialist choice that the party, Uncle Ho, and our people have asserted. To heighten the understanding of socialism and the line on socialist renovation in accordance with the seventh party congress program; to stress socialist patriotism, the spirit of independence, self-rule, self-reliance, and national self-respect; to properly resolve the relationships between nation and class and between national independence and socialism, with distinction of true patriotism from bourgeois and petty bourgeois nationalism. To affirm Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh's thoughts being the ideological foundation and guide for all activities of our party and Army. To resolutely struggle against hostile and wrong rightist opportunistic and neorevisionist views; to continue to overcome conservative and subjective voluntaristic expressions. In the military field, we must grasp and thoroughly understand the party's military line, views, and thoughts, and guard against and overcome the signs of dogmatism, escapism, conservatism, and excessive reliance on experience.

To strengthen the nature of the worker class; to properly practice democracy and discipline, internal solidarity, and Army-people solidarity; to display the "Uncle Ho's troops" title in the new situation.

To train in the political capabilities of troops, particularly of leading cadres, namely, remaining steady in all situations, dealing correctly and cleverly with complex circumstances, bravely defending the truth, and struggling against hostile and wrong views.

In organization, to try to build clean and strong Army party organizations having greater political leadership capabilities and combat power. We must thoroughly understand and properly carry out the leadership requirements and ideas, as well as the policies and measures having to do with renovation and party reorganization, which the resolution of the Third Plenum of the CPV Central Committee, Seventh Term, has suggested, and apply them in an accurate and creative manner to the Army.

3. To build with good balance the three arms of the people's Armed Forces and to correctly resolve the issues of organization, staff, equipment, training, scientific research in military art and military science-technology of the people's Army and of the three arms, in conformity with the country's real conditions and peacetime situation.

The people's Army maintains a rational regular strength, has high quality, and has a large reserve and drafted force. Local and border-defense troops are organized in conformity with the characteristics of the localities' situation and tasks; attention must be paid to the localities along borders, in the highlands, on the coast, and on islands. Militia and self-defense forces are organized in conformity with economic components, production installations, and administrative and professional units. We must thoroughly understand the view on "realistic, basic, steady, and strike-at-any-target" training; units must be trained to be skillful in fighting with weapons to be carried as dictated in the table of organization and equipment, and on this basis in fighting in coordinated combat with various arms and services. To tightly manage the troops in all aspects. To thoroughly understand the party's military views and thoughts and to closely watch new developments in the military field and military technology in the world in order to correctly and creatively resolve the issues having to do with the military science and art of the people's war under new conditions. By taking firm measures, we must strengthen the work of ensuring technical quality so as to maintain and use for a long time the weapons and equipment we now have. To build the national defense industry by taking one appropriate step after another and to merge it with the country's industries so as to satisfy part of the peacetime national defense and economic needs and to be ready to switch them to wartime operations. To reorganize and consolidate the Army's economy-supporting organizations. "To guarantee a good material and spiritual life for cadres and troops in conformity with the active nature of the people's Army and people's public security force." (seventh party congress program) To have correct and appropriate policies aimed at building, training, and cultivating the ranks of officers in peacetime to be ready for wartime. We must properly resolve the issues having to do with the Army's rear-area policy in order to make cadres, troops, national defense workers and civil servants, and their families feel reassured as they serve the Army and to mobilize all our people for active participation in the Army and in consolidating national defense.

To defend the fatherland is one of the two strategic tasks of our country's socialist revolution in the period of transition to socialism. This task has new objectives because of the characteristics of the situations of our country and of the world and because of the adversary forces' destructive and aggressive plots.

It is the task of all our party, people, and Army; of the state's sectors; and of the entire political system under the leadership of the party, and is closely combined with the task of national construction. The party program adopted by the seventh party congress clearly points out: "To consolidate national defense and to maintain national security is the vital regular task of all our people and of the state."

Under the conditions of the party assuming leadership over the administration and in a peaceful situation, all positions and policies within the party's military line must be made into institutions and plans so as to let all our party, people, and Army thoroughly understand and implement them. There must be smooth coordination among sectors, echelons, and so on if we want to attain an efficiency high enough to allow us to defend the fatherland under any circumstances, including those of a large-scale aggressive war.

Doan Khue's Speech at Youth Union Congress

Part One

BK0909145792 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 27 Aug 92

["First part" of speech by General Doan Khue, delivered at the opening session of the Fourth All-Army Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union Congress in Hanoi on 27 August; recorded]

[Text] Dear presidium of the congress, delegates, and comrades:

On behalf of the Military Commission of the party Central Committee and the Ministry of National Defense, I warmly welcome delegates, cadres, and outstanding youth union members to the Fourth All-Army Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union [HCMCYU] Congress. I warmly welcome leading cadres and commanders of units and agencies who are attending this congress with enthusiasm and responsibility and with the aim of guiding and leading the younger generation. I wish all of you good health and happiness and, through you, to all cadres, members, and youth of the HCMCYU in the Army, my warm greetings and kind regards. [applause]

Dear delegates, the Military Commission of the party Central Committee and the Ministry of National Defense are happy to see progress, maturity, and contributions of the HCMCYU members in the Army in the past five years. These achievements have not only enabled our Army to overcome numerous ordeals to triumphantly fulfill all tasks, but also to assert that youths at present—with their improved background and intelligence—have always been a pride of our people, the party, and Army. They are the generation that will lead our nation to prosperity in the new stage. I am happy to have the chance to highly commend the youths in the Army for their past contributions and progress.

However, there are still shortcomings in youth activities in the Army. As a result, it is necessary to conduct serious self-criticism to find ways and means to overcome them and in order to make better progress.

At this congress, I would like to honestly point out some of my generation's experiences to you comrades, the younger generation, who have been and are taking responsibility to carry on our revolutionary cause in the new stage.

Dear comrades, my generation—most of whom are more or less 70 years old—used to endure [words indistinct] numerous difficulties. We lived in desperate conditions while the country was dominated by foreign aggressors [passages indistinct], while your generation embarked on the struggle with the support of a strong, enthusiastic, and intelligent force, something which we did not have in the past.

At this conference, 79 percent of the 300 delegates graduated from high schools, almost 20 percent come from universities, and many of your comrades have professional skills. Thanks to our party leadership, our system, and the achievements of our revolution, you comrades have acquired a relatively high educational level. As a result, we should uphold our patriotism [words indistinct]. It is necessary to say that the revolution has brought about a new life for us. Though there are still many difficulties, but the people are now masters of their own fate and destiny. The new life has helped us to enhance our intelligence to catch up with the present era. For this reason, efforts to effectively protect and develop our system rest chiefly with the younger generation.

As you comrades are well aware, the renovation set by the Sixth CPV [Communist Party of Vietnam] Congress and asserted by the Seventh CPV Congress, has made initial yet very important achievements. Nevertheless, our country has not extricated itself yet from the current socioeconomic crisis. I believe all Vietnamese patriot with a deep concern for the future of our nation, will spare no effort in finding ways and means to contribute to the renovation for even greater achievements. However, due to numerous difficulties at present, a number of people including youths, have shown a reluctance in advancing along the path toward socialism. As a result, negative phenomena such as arbitrariness, [words indistinct], suspicion, irresponsibility in difficult tasks are still prevalent.

Dear comrades, the socioeconomic difficulties we faced in the past several years and the sabotage activities of the hostile forces have to some extent affected the thinking and sentiment of many people, including youths. I think this is normal and understandable. However, we must study the issue calmly and scientifically. We must consider the situation in friendly countries as well as in our own; analyze history and future trends. Through this analysis, we will see the true objectives of our path and the reality of the life we are leading.

It is necessary to mention here that we are enjoying national independence and are advancing along the path toward socialism. Our confidence in this system coupled with our awareness of the law of evolution of human society, have convinced us that capitalism will collapse and be replaced by socialism. It took capitalism 300 years to reach its present stage. During this time, it has undergone countless bloodbaths and conflicts still exist. As a result, the emergence of socialist countries in the past several decades, in which they had to build their system, fight the enemy, and struggle and find a correct path, indicate that they [words indistinct].

Our party has asserted in its political platform that although the world has presently undergone complicated changes, mankind will eventually advance toward socialism. This is the evolutionary law of history. As a result, we must study and scientifically appraise our party efforts to overcome difficulties and ordeals on the path toward socialism, while facing the truth squarely, whatever it may be.

Dear comrades, in implementing the renovation in the past few years, we have made important achievements. Our revolution continues to advance, [words indistinct], the economy has developed, inflation has declined, prices have stabilized, and the people's daily life have improved. These results strengthen our confidence in our system and enhances our determination and strength to advance along the path toward socialism. These achievements have also asserted that the objectives, orientations, and noble goals set by our party, Uncle Ho, and the older generation are totally correct. Our duty now is to seriously and firmly protect and consistently develop the revolutionary gains of our party, nation, and people through their great efforts and their sacrifices in flesh and blood.

Last Part

BK1109133392 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 28 Aug 92

["Remaining part" of General Doan Khue's speech delivered at opening session of the Fourth All-Army Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union Congress in Hanoi on 27 August—recorded]

[Text] Dear comrades: It is correct to say that our socialist revolutionary cause is facing many difficulties and challenges. However, in my opinion, nothing could compare with the problems our country faced in the 1930's. The reason is because at that time, our party was newly established and our people lived in slavery and many of them were persecuted, tortured, or killed by the enemy. The pursuit of youth ideals made the Communists at that time happy and encouraged them to stay close to the masses and help rekindle the people's profound love for the country. Together with the people, they led the August Revolution to victory. In addition, nothing could compare with the difficulties our nation faced in the 1945-46 period because soon after the restoration of power, our people had to cope with the joint efforts of the enemies from within and without to topple the newly established revolutionary administration. Under the pretext of backing their allies, Chiang Kai-shek and Great Britain sent troops to Vietnam to replace the Japanese fascist clique. Prompted by their plot to annex our country, the French colonialists resumed their provocations in Nam Bo. Furthermore, reactionaries of every hue continued clinging to the imperialist forces in an effot to restore the Nguyen's throne and serve as henchmen for the enemy.

Meanwhile, a serious famine took hold everywhere, killing as many as 2 million of our compatriots. Thus, our people faced towering difficulties and our nation was caught in an extremely precarious situation. Nonetheless, under the clearsighted, talented leadership of the party and Uncle Ho, our entire Army and people, displaying complete unanimity of mind and action, waged a war of resistance for national salvation and went from one victory to another before winning the resounding Dien Bien Phu victory, which put an end to a century of suffering under the old colonialist clique's clutches.

Next came the anti-U.S. national salvation struggle when the U.S.-Diem clique set up its guillotine in the south along with the massive introduction of more than half a million U.S. troops there. The United States hoped that its overall military strength would hurl our people back to the Stone Age. Many of our good friends expressed their concern for us. Yet our people remained unsubmissive. In light of the truth that nothing is more valuable than independence and freedom and under the clearsighted leadership of the party and Uncle Ho, our people bravely carried out the anti-U.S. national salvation struggle, which ended with the complete victory of the earth-shaking Ho Chi Minh Campaign. Never before has our people's prestige left such an indelible imprint on the times. The Vietnamese people have become a source of pride and an example for many nations to follow. It can be said that over the past 60 years since the birth of the party, besides countless difficulties and challenges, our people's revolutionary undertaking has also witnessed so many glorious exploits worthy of pride and admiration. Being fully aware of their lofty objectives and raison d'etre, youths of many generations have closed their ranks, fighting bravely and stalwartly, overcoming difficulties and sacrifices, and scoring glorious exploits that we all are dutybound to preserve and develop a step further in the new stage.

As far as the current situation is concerned, the task of defending the fatherland and building the Armed Forces calls for new efforts. Youths in the Armed Forces in particular and the entire Army and people as a whole also have new requirements to meet to show that they fully understand their responsibility toward the fatherland's future and the people's happiness.

Instead of leaving us alone, the enemy has constantly resorted to acts of sabotage against us. Through the peaceful evolution strategy and sophisticated, pernicious maneuvers, the enemy from without is frenziedly colluding with reactionaries inside the country to undermine our revolutionary cause. Regarding youths, the enemy is trying by all means to poison their minds through a pragmatic, extravagant lifestyle and a reactionary, depraved culture. You all must remain very alert, exert self-control, constantly heighten vigilance, stand ready to fight and fight effectively, improve the quality of training activities, and resolutely foil all dark schemes of the enemy's peaceful evolution strategy.

Together with the entire Army and people, let all of you contribute to safeguarding political stability, accelerating the cause of national renovation, and successfully implementing the platform and economic development strategy adopted by the seventh party congress. Let all of you try your best to respond to the movement to keep weapons and other military equipment in good condition because these are valuable assets that our party and people have acquired and put at your disposal through countless sacrifices in flesh and blood. It is your duty to keep them in top condition.

You, comrades, must train yourselves in order to build for yourselves a new lifestyle that is clean, healthy, simple, and invested with principle and must know how to foster self-respect and value beautiful things, in terms of sentiment, spiritual life, comradeship, family, and friendship. You must also know how to lead a simple and healthy life that suits the conditions and way of life of our people and Army and is in harmony with the civilized lifestyle of our times. Concise hairstyle; clean clothes; orderly and well-organized living quarters; and dignified, graceful, courteous, and modest bearing are the characteristics of the cultural-oriented lifestyle of youths in the Army.

Coming into being in the land of the revolutionary base of the entire country and through various historic periods of resisting foreign aggressors and building and defending the country, under the leadership of the glorious Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] and esteemed President Ho Chi Minh, cadres, teachers, students, noncomissioned officers, combatants, and defense workers and personnel of all generations of the school have always illustrated the glorious traditions of the heroic Vietnam People's Army, as well as the revolutionary tradition of the Armed Forces and people of all nationalities in the northern part, and upheld their unflinching loyalty to the party and the socialist Vietnamese fatherland. They have also maintained solidarity and a close link with the local people and displayed the sense of independence and self-reliance in their struggle to overcome difficulties, thus outstandingly fulfilling all duties.

The school has provided training or advanced training for tens of thousands of cadres—many of them are children of the people of various ethnic minority groups—to satisfy the needs arising from combat activities and the development of all local units, thus contributing to the glorious victory of our Armed Forces and people in the struggle for national liberation, construction, and defense.

On this glorious anniversary, I would like warmly commend the school for its achievements over the past 45 years. I would also like to extend my thanks to the party and administrative organs and people of various nationalities in the first military region for their wholehearted assistance, thus creating favorable conditions for the school to outstandingly fulfill all tasks.

Dear comrades, under the leadership of the party, the process of renovating country has brought about important initial results. However, there remain no fewer difficulties and challenges.

As an Army school that has come to life since the early days of the revolution and has had the honor of being visited by Uncle Ho, you should illustrate your glorious tradition by striving to profoundly understand and scrupulously implement the resolution of the seventh national party congress, as well as the resolutions of the Political Bureau and Military Commission of party Central Committee. You must develop firm political aptitude, persist in the socialist ojjective, and be determined to successfully carry out the tasks of the Army and military region under the new situation.

The school must firmly grasp the training objectives and the need to build up the people's Armed Forces in the military region, thoroughly understand and creatively apply the educational principles of the party to the modification of the contents, programs, forms, and methods of teaching and learning.

The school must also improve training quality and efficiency, ensure unity, demonstrate initiative and creativity, further promote democracy, strictly maintain discipline, and step up the emulation movement to follow the teaching given to the school by President Ho Chi Minh—teaching well, studying well, satisfactorily fostering unity in the school and among the people of all nationalities, and building the school into a model military school. This is aimed at making the school worthy of the trust of the party, Uncle Ho, the Army, and the military region; and the care and assistance given by the people.

May I wish you, comrades, good health and many new successes.

My cordial and determined-to-win salutations.

Australia

Canberra 'Puzzled' by Solomon Islands Statement

BK1509095292 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0800 GMT 15 Sep 92

[Text] Australia says it is extremely puzzled by a statement from the Solomon Islands Government questioning the genuiness of Australia's approach to the country. The matter was raised by Solomon Islands' prime minister, Solomon Mamaloni, following a cross-border raid into his country by commandos from Papua New Guinea. Australia's foreign minister, Gareth Evans, said he had asked the Solomons Government for an explanation of its comment about the genuiness of the Australia High Commission in Honiara and Australian defense advisers.

Keating Says Trade Ties on Tokyo Visit Agenda

OW1109134492 Tokyo KYODO in English 1308 GMT 11 Sep 92

[Text] Canberra, Sept. 11 KYODO—Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating said Friday that trade relations are high on the agenda for his talks later this month in Tokyo with Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

Keating told Japanese reporters that the main purpose of the September 20-24 trip is to establish a closer working relationship with Miyazawa and his government, with emphasis on trade relations.

Keating said he will discuss a summit of members of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum. The timing is right for a summit because the Asia-Pacific region is the fastest growing area of the world economically but its opportunities depend on open world trade, he said.

"I see APEC as a trade liberalizing force," he said. "To give it the horsepower that will really advance it, it should be presided over by the heads of the governments represented."

A summit would include the president of the United States, providing a forum where the U.S. could discuss trade in the Asia-Pacific area outside the group of seven major economic powers—the U.S., Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Canada and Japan.

"Whatever the trade and cultural influences," he said of APEC, "the other good thing about it, is it engages the United States more fully in the Pacific area."

His emphasis on including the United States in APEC follows the recent North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and large subsidies for wheat farmers which U.S. President George Bush announced last week.

Keating was emphatic in his suspicion of NAFTA and the future of trading blocs. While a U.S. trade accord with Canada and Mexico is understandable, as about 70 percent of their exports already go to the U.S., he said "there's nothing natural about NAFTA going into South America" which would diminish the market share of other countries in the U.S.

The solution, said Keating, lies in a successful conclusion of the latest round of General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) talks promoting free trade.

"GATT is the best backdrop for any trading structure" so APEC and NAFTA should function within its trading rules, he said.

Keating also welcomed Bush's proposal to conclude a series of free trade agreements with Latin America, central Europe and with countries across the Pacific.

Keating went on to say that the relationship between Japan and Australia is "probably our most successful postwar relationship."

Keating said he would not raise specific issues between the two countries during his visit, but that he sees the trip as a chance to "make what is an already strong relationship stronger."

Keating also said Australia supports a more active Japanese role in international security, including Japanese participation in United Nations peacekeeping operations in Cambodia and a permanent Japanese seat on the UN Security Council.

"We see the Paris peace process as being the best opportunity for Cambodia and intend to persist with it," he said. He said he is certain Japan has the same attitude.

Keating said he sees no APEC role in strategic policy, as security in the Asia-Pacific area is based on bilateral agreements, U.S. involvement and groups such as ASEAN.

French Minister on Toxic Waste Disposal Details

BK1209094292 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 12 Sep 92

[Text] There has been another confusing signal from France over the processing of Australian toxic waste. The French environment minister, Segolene (Royal), now says the decision to allow Australian waste to be disposed of in France applies only to contracts already signed. Robert Bolton reports that this statement comes only a day after the French Government was forced into an embarrassing change of policy on the same issue.

[Begin Bolton recording] The pronouncement means after the current 1,000 tons of waste is destroyed, no more will be accepted for processing. (Royal) said countries like Australia need to dispose off their own waste. Earlier in the week, the minister banned further shipments of Australian PCB's [polychlorinated biphenyl], jeopardizing the bulk of the contracted shipment. Later, this ruling was overturned by the French Government.

Minister (Royal) made her latest comment at an environment conference where she told delegates treatment of waste has to be carried out in its country of origin. [end recording]

Unemployment Rate Figures Reported, Analyzed

BK1009051492 Hong Kong AFP in English 0413 GMT 10 Sep 92

[Text] Sydney, Sept 10 (AFP)—Australia's unemployment rate fell for the second month in succession to a seasonally adjusted 10.9 percent in August from 11 percent in July, according to data released Thursday.

The unemployment rate reached a post-depression record high of 11.1 percent here in June.

The latest reduction came in spite of the loss of 17,600 jobs in August, the Bureau of Statistics said.

The bureau said the number of people looking for work fell by 12,100 in August to 947,500, down 15,900 on the June peak.

The latest retail [word indistinct] figures released simultaneously show Australians are also spending a little more, with the seasonally adjusted retail turnover rising 0.6 percent in July.

The employment data indicates the fall in unemployment was caused mainly by people dropping out of the workforce, with the labour force participation rate falling O.3 percentage points to 63.2 percent.

The figures showed total employment fell 17,600 to 7.732 million after rising 86,200 in the previous two months.

The loss of 28,300 full time jobs in August was partly offset by a rise of 12,700 in part-time employment.

Teenage unemployment fell by 0.9 percentage points to 34.0 percent, with an estimated 133,500 people aged 15-19 looking for full-time work. The rate peaked at 35.8 per cent in June.

The statisticians' trend estimates, which smooth out monthly fluctuations in the figures, showed total employment had now been growing for four months.

The bureau said the recovery is being driven by part-time employment with fulltime employment continuing to fall in trend terms although the rate has slowed.

Department of Social Security figures released at the same time showed that the dole queue had shortened in August for the first time since May 1990, although the reduction was only 978 or 0.1 per cent to 855,527.

One analyst, Citibank chief economist Grant Bailey, said the figures were still worrying although they indicated a very mild improvement.

"I think we really just have further evidence that the labour market is very soft and will continue to be weak for some time because there are no clear signs on the horizon that the employment prospects will pick up quickly," he said.

He said government job creation programs would help a little, but the economic recovery was proving to be very muted.

The Australian sharemarket, which slumped to a 14-month low during the morning trading session, rallied with the release of unemployment figures which were better than expected.

Analysts said the market bottomed in the first hour with the main indicator, the all ordinaries index, plunging 14 points to its lowest point since April last year.

But it had regained five points to stand at 1469 points soon after the figures were released.

Employment Minister Kim Beazley said in a statement that the level of unemployment was "unacceptable to the Government as it was to all Australians.

"However, the indicators for sustained employment growth are encouraging," he added.

New Zealand

Voters Face Confusion on Upcoming Referendum

BK1409020692 Hong Kong AFP in English 0130 GMT 14 Sep 92

[By Michael Field]

[Text] Wellington, Sept 14 (AFP)—New Zealanders go to the ballot box Saturday to determine the shape of their political future, but the debate over their options is mired in confusion.

In the first of two referendums, voters will be asked if they prefer to retain the "first past the post" (FPP) voting system, in use since 1853. Then, in a second question, they will have to decide on alternative voting systems—supplementary member, single transferable votes, mixed member proportional (MMP) or preferential voting.

Next year, in a binding referendum, the FPP system—in which the candidate with the most votes wins, regardless of whether he or she has a majority—will be put up against the favoured alternative.

A Television New Zealand poll showed that of the decided, 62 percent wanted to abandon FPP, with 38 percent preferring MMP. Other options were far behind. But the poll showed 60 percent of voters felt they did not have enough information to vote.

Some members of Parliament now argue that if there is a low turnout, it will not be worthwhile holding the second referendum.

For the two established main parties, National and Labour, that would be good news. They have thrived under the existing system and it is widely thought they would be less successful if it is changed. One poll showed more than 60 percent of MPs prefer the status quo.

The current system, combined with a unicameral Parliament dominated by a powerful cabinet, has given New Zealand one of the world's most extreme majority systems, analysts say, and as in Britain, Canada and some other Commonwealth countries, few governments here have ever had a majority of all votes cast. But after 10 years of radical economic reforms, pushed by cabinets and rubberstamped by compliant Parliaments, the push for reform has been strong.

In 1985 a previous Labour Government set up a royal commission to study the voting systems, and recommended MMP.

Ahead of the vote the government has used state television to run a series of advertisements, ostensibly to educate people on the options, but the ads have been slammed by critics and reform advocates as biased against change.

Observers say it appears the referendum here is less a vote about the system and more about anger at the way Parliament has operated.

"I think that we will find that in the public mind the first referendum will be as much a referendum on every single (MP) and his or her behaviour as it is on the electoral system," said opposition MP Peter Dunne.

Further confusing the debate has been a claim by Prime Minister Jim Bolger that if FPP was dumped, the four special seats (out of 97) in Parliament reserved for native Maori would disappear, especially if MMP was adopted.

The Maori Council, a legislative group representing tribes, initially called on Maori to boycott the poll, claiming it offered them no representation and did not address their real grievances. It later reversed that position.

The Electoral Reform Coalition, a pro-MMP group, claimed Bolger was muddying the waters, especially as no one yet knows how each of the alternative systems would be organised.

Nor does anybody yet know what threshold for respresentation would be used if one of the alternatives is adopted. The royal commission said parties should not be allowed parliamentary representation with less than four percent of the overall vote.

Critics say that if the threshold is set too high, any new system may not be able to produce results different from the existing set-up.

Kuwait Thanks Government for Gulf War Help

BK1009064092 Hong Kong AFP in English 0546 GMT 10 Sep 92

[Text] Wellington, Sept 10 (AFP)—The amir of Kuwait Thursday formally thanked Prime Minister Jim Bolger for New Zealand's role in freeing his country from Iraqi occupation in 1991.

Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah expressed his thanks while meeting Bolger at a Wellington hotel, a spokesman for Bolger said afterwards.

They had also discussed the issue of Kuwait's democracy with the amir, the spokesman said.

The Kuwaiti National Assembly was suspended in 1986 and is due to be reinstated in elections next month. Only men of Kuwaiti descent can vote.

The amir told Bolger he supported giving women the franchise, but there were still groups in Kuwait who opposed the move.

Some women, although keen to be able to vote, did not wish to hold office, he said.

During the war New Zealand contributed two transport planes, 75 associated personnel and two medical teams to the 20-nation United Nations military force. The amir leaves Saturday for the Maldives.

Papua New Guinea

Somare Supports Bombing Australian Activist Ship

BK1009065892 Hong Kong AFP in English 0609 GMT 10 Sep 92

[Text] Port Moresby, Sept 10 (AFP)—Australian activists who plan to sail to the secessionist island of Bougainville this month should be blown up, Papua New Guinea opposition leader Sir Michael Somare said Thursday.

Somare, a former prime minister and foreign minister until elections held two months ago, said the planned protest was an attempt to meddle in the internal affairs of Papua New Guinea and should not be allowed to proceed.

"If I had it my way, I would bomb the ship and blow up everybody (on board)," he told reporters.

"I would like to see the defence force confiscate the boat and sell it. With the money we can buy much-needed medicine for the people of Bougainville."

Australians led by lawyer Rosemarie Gillespie plan to sail on board the MV Flinders from Sydney on September 25 with medical supplies to the port of Kieta, on the east coast of Bougainville near the capital Arawa.

Somare said the Papua New Guinea Government had done all it could to restore the supply of goods and services to the island but its efforts were being frustrated by by the Bougainville Revolutionary Party.

His comments come only a day after another MP, Robert Suckling, said security forces should sink the MV Flinders.

Suckling said Gillespie "is only extending the agony and suffering of the great majority of people on Bougainville by taking this action."

Others, including Deputy Prime Minister Sir Julius Chan, Justice Minister Philemon Embel, and opposition spokesman on foreign affairs Simon Kaumi have spoken against the planned protest but in less vehement terms.

Chan said the trip would not succeed while Embel said the group should make clear who they support.

"There are 160,000 Papua New Guineans on Bougainville—and a group of criminals who are making life difficult for those Papua New Guineans," Embel said.

"If these so-called protestors and sympathisers support the rebels then they are collaborators of a criminal organisation and will be treated as such.

"If they are sympathisers of our people who are being subjected to difficulties and sufferings because of the rebels or criminal activity of a minority group they ought to co-operate with the government and all other relevant organisations in attempting to find a solution. Embel stressed that the protestors would face the full force of the law if they entered Papua New Guinea illegally.

Gillespie, who says she was fired on as she attempted to take supplies to the island in June, said the Melbourne crew was committed to the voyage.

The Papua New Guinea Red Cross which was stopped from going to the island this week with medical supplies says it will make a fresh attempt next week.

Prime Minister Discusses Solomon Island Raid

BK1309070092 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 13 Sep 92

[Text] Papua New Guinea's [PNG] Prime Minister Paias Wingti has called for a report from the defense force on a recent raid by soldiers into the Solomon Islands. Sean Dorney reports that news of the raid, in which the soldiers killed two Solomon Islanders, one of them a woman, and wounded a three-year-old girl, seemed to have taken Mr. Wingti by surprise.

[Begin recording] [Dorney] It would not be the first time the authorities in Port Moresby have been amongst the last to learn of cross border military initiatives taken by the defense force on Bougainville against suspected secessionist supply links. The previous Namaliu government was caught up several times. This latest incident in which two Solomon Islands citizens have died is a major embarrassment for Prime Minister Wingti, who two months ago embraced Solomon Islands Prime Minister Mr. Mamoloni and declared relations were back to normal. (Datrenuli Dorsh) was the woman the PNG soldiers left to bleed to death and who was also shot on the left knee has been flown to hospital in Honiara. Mr. Wingti has summoned the defense force chief and demanded a briefing. [end recording]

Solomon Islands

Mamaloni Issues Statement on 'Barbaric' Incursion

BK1509092592 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0800 GMT 15 Sep 92

[Text] The Solomon Islands prime minister has taken a swipe at Australia in a major statement announcing that his government wants to appoint a neutral, special emissary to mediate between his country and Papua New Guinea [PNG]. Sean Dorney reports on the continuing aftermath of last weekend's cross-border incursion by PNG troops that left two Solomon Islands citizens dead.

[Begin Dorney recording] Prime Minister Solomon Mamaloni, who has released a two-page statement on, what he called, the recent barbaric act of PNG forces. Describing the current period as a difficult time for his country, he says Solomon Islands must now question the genuineness of some of its traditional friends, and he says it would seem clear that there might be an external third party involved in the Bougainville crisis.

The Solomon Islands prime minister did not explain just who this third party might be, but later in the statement he returned to the issue of who might be a genuine friend when he says a meeting of goverment and opposition leaders held in the cabinet conference hall in Honiara on Sunday questioned the genuineness of the Australian high commission.

Also under question, he says are the Australian defense advisers currently attached to the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force. Not under question, but rather under probability of expulsion are the PNG high commissioner, Frank Miro, and the two Honiara-based spokesmen for the Bougainville secessionists, (Martin Mariore) and (John Zale).

Mr. Mamaloni says this is part of a contingency plan to minimize the possibility of similar incidents in the future to that of last Saturday morning. A full report of the incursion is to be sent to the UN Security Council. PNG's prime minister has called for his own report. He has pledged to bring the soldiers involved to justice if a report by the acting commander of the Defense Force confirmed that the soldiers killed the Solomon Islands storekeeper and his sister. [end recording]

Delegation Seeks Information on PNG Raid

BK1409070292 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 14 Sep 92

[Text] A high-level Solomon Islands delegation is seeking firsthand information on the Papua New Guinea com mando raid on the Shortland Islands. The delegation includes the governor general, Sir George Lepping, and the minister for police and justice, Albert Laore, who comes from the region. They will visit the site of the incident at the (Komalei) village where the commandos killed two people, wounded a child, and abducted a third person. The delegation includes representatives of the police and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

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